THE TIMES

No 63,978 | FRIDAY MARCH 29 1991 | 35p

Pro-Yeltsin rally passes off peacefully

Massive show of force blocks Red Square

From Mary Dejevsky and Bruce Clark in Moscow

PRESIDENT Gorbachev yesterday defended the citadel of Soviet power and his presidency with a huge show of troops and hardware in the centre of Moscow. But the moral and political victory belonged to Boris Yeltsin, for whom tens of thousands of Muscovites rallied in a peaceful twilight demonstration.

Earlier, Mr Yeltsin had presided over the Russian Federation's parliament, which protested at the "siege conditions" under which it was working and declared the central government's ban on demonstrations "unconstitutional". Proceedings were adjourned after Mr Gorbachev rejected a plea from the congress for the military to be withdrawn.

The demonstration, on the city ringroad, epitomised the struggle for power between Russia and the centre, with many people waving the imperial Russian tricolour or portraits of Mr Yeltsin as they mustered in the snow at the end of the working day. Home-made placards included one with the legend: "By the year 2000, all dictators will have Nobel prizes." An army officer, in uniform, held a banner with the words: "Yeltsin, you have been sent to us by fate." Simple "Yeltsin — Yes, Gorbachev — No" posters were everywhere.

At the inner boulevard, the demonstrators encountered five-deep ranks of police in full riot gear, backed up with rows of military lorries — no tanks or armoured personnel carriers — barring the way to Manezh Square. For some elderly women, the spectacle was so novel that they pushed past the demonstrators to look. "I must see a water cannon, to see what one looks like," said one. At Pushkin Square, where the bigger of the crowds was stopped, youths and elderly women chanted: "Fascists, Fascists!" at the anti-riot police.

After a minor scuffle, the whole crowd was turned back to Mayakovsky Square. There, they heard the mayor, Gavriil Popov, say that their presence showed that "the leadership cannot turn the people back down the road on which it has embarked. This meeting is to uphold the right of every Muscovite to demonstrate, to defend the rights of the Moscow city council and to mandate Russian deputies to vote for Russian presidential elections."

Central Moscow had been under the control of the police and interior ministry troops since early morning. Traffic was allowed into the city only with special authorisation, and hundreds of khaki lorries and jeeps lined up in side streets around the Kremlin and Manezh Square. The interior minister, Boris Pugo, told deputies at the Soviet parliament that 50,000 police and interior ministry troops had been deployed. They would not be armed, but were equipped with truncheons, water cannon and tear gas. The mayor of Leningrad, Anatoli Sobchak, called for the ban on the demonstration to be revoked, but to no avail.

A similar request from the Russian congress was conveyed to Mr Gorbachev by Mr Yeltsin's deputy, Ruslan Khasbulatov, who reported back that it had been dismissed. Mr Gorbachevhad insisted that the troops stay, but undertook that they would be withdrawn today. Late at night, trucks were seen leaving the centre, suggesting that the promise had been kept.

The White House had also urged Mr Gorbachev to allow the demonstration and had warned the Soviet authorities against using force to suppress the rally. In markedly stronger language than that of the State Department on Wednesday, the White House said its concern that a legitimate peaceful protest would be forcibly crushed had been conveyed to senior levels of the Soviet government.

Mr Gorbachev's position last night was unenviable. To withdraw the troops would show the central Soviet authorities powerless to withstand pressure from the Russian Federation leaders, and that central government edicts were worthless. To deploy the troops and then leave them in place, however, would be to risk real violence.

Border rhetoric, page 11
Leading article, page 13

Boris Yeltsin signals to technicians to cut the microphone while an opponent is speaking

Seeing double: John Major checking his likeness during a visit to Madame Tussaud's waxwork museum yesterday

Travel firm fails as break begins

By David Young and Harvey Elliott

THE Easter holiday started last night with the collapse of a holiday company, leaving almost 4,000 children with cancelled holidays, and with the huge motorway traffic jams that are now as traditional as frozen bake-it-yourself hot-cross buns and gaudily packaged chocolate eggs.

Almost 4,000 children will turn up for Easter skiing trips this weekend to be told that they have been cancelled, following the collapse of two schools travel companies. Attempts failed late yesterday to contact more than 100 schools to tell them that Chesham-based Adventure Express, and Adventure Travel International, of Shipley, West Yorkshire, had ceased trading.

A spokesman for the Association of British Travel Agents said: "I am afraid we have not had time to arrange any alternative travel, and because of the problems of contacting schools that have now closed for the holidays, or of getting hold of so many local education authorities, we have been unable to warn most of the clients. They will eventually get their money back, but it could take some time. In the meantime, I am afraid that those who have booked to travel this weekend will not be able to go."

Attempts were last night being made to bring back 1,850 children already on trips organised through the companies throughout Europe.

The collapse of the two tour operators comes within weeks of the liquidation of Quest and Sun Living, two of Britain's

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Road hold-ups, page 3

Saddam skimmed off 5% of Iraqi oil money

Iraq's leader has stolen billions for bribes, kickbacks and his own use, says a former member of his cabinet. Michael Binyon reports

Saddam Hussein has siphoned off for his own use more than £5.7 billion from Iraqi oil receipts and invested overseas in concealed accounts with a total value now of around $33 billion (£19 billion).

In addition, some $60 billion is missing from the Iraqi treasury over the period between 1968 and 1989, according to official Iraqi statistics. And at a time when Iraq was appealing for international relief after the eight-year war with Iran, Saddam's wife paid $320 million for the jewels of the former Shah of Iran's wife, delivered in cash in a suitcase to a dealer in Geneva.

This picture of unparalleled corruption was described yesterday by Jawad Hashim, a former Iraqi planning minister, who worked closely with Saddam for 11 years and has detailed knowledge of the many covert financial deals, bribes, kickbacks and illegal operations controlled by the Iraqi leader and his immediate family.

Mr Hashim said Saddam decided as soon as he took power that he would set up a "5 per cent operation" to skim Iraqi oil revenues for his own use, so that if he or the Baath party were ousted they would have funds abroad to finance their return to power. "If we leave, then we will ensure that whoever takes over will find no more than rubble," he said. "We are here to stay for 300 years."

Mr Hashim calculated that 5 per cent of Iraq's oil income would yield around $9.4 billion, and taking an average interest rate of 12.5 per cent this would now amount, with interest, to $33 billion. He said the money was spread around dozens of different accounts. The only way to trace it was to "follow the paper trail" of all those abroad, including banks and solicitors.

Mr Hashim, who left Iraq in 1982 and is now a Canadian citizen, has broken a long silence on the deals because he says the money belongs to the Iraqi people, and should be used to rebuild the nation. His testimony has already been written into the Congressional Record, and he is providing evidence directly to the American government.

The money was originally controlled by three people: Saddam, the former defence minister Adnan Khairallah, and Adnan Hamdani, a senior Baath party official. Mr Hamdani was executed in 1979 and Mr Khairallah died in a mysterious helicopter crash two years ago.

Control of Iraq's funds was concentrated more and more among Saddam's family and associates. Last year the Revolutionary Command Council voted $7 million to build a house for Sadoun Hammadi, now the prime minister.

Hussein Kamal, Saddam's son-in-law, who was a former head of presidential security, is now minister of industry and oil and before the war controlled 68 per cent of Iraq's gross national product. After the war with Iran, he bought enterprises Iraq had decided to privatise worth $120 million. As he had no money to pay for them, the Revolutionary Command Council passed a law six months ago saying the government would forgo payment "in appreciation of Hussein Kamal's services to military industrialisation".

When Mr Khairallah was killed, his personal estate amounted to $3 billion, the equivalent of the entire Iraqi GNP in 1970. The Revolutionary Command Council passed a law absolving the estate from death duties. "How did a poor man from an army family come to have so much money?" Mr Hashim asked. He said that div-

Continued on page 20, col 4

Disaster verdicts anger relatives

By Ronald Faux

RELATIVES of Hillsborough disaster victims are considering private prosecutions against police officers after a Sheffield coroner recorded verdicts of accidental death on the 95 football fans crushed to death at the ground in 1989.

Trevor Hicks, chairman of the Hillsborough Family Support Group, said the relatives would continue to press for the police officers then in charge of crowd control at the ground to be disciplined. He said that the evidence should have been heard by High Court judges rather than under coroner's rules.

The inquest verdict was lawful "but in our opinion it is immoral", he said. Though in the public's eyes Hillsborough was an accident, relatives of the dead knew it was not.

The group would take legal advice on future action but £150,000 had already been spent on legal costs. Private prosecutions were being considered but the expense might rule them out.

Some relatives of the victims wept angrily and shouted in disbelief when the jury in Sheffield returned its verdicts by a nine-to-two majority.

Worst tragedy, page 2
Leading article, page 13

Southern rebels say key city has fallen

By Our Foreign Staff

IRAQI rebels claimed yesterday to have captured the holy city of Karbala in southern Iraq as the government claimed to have recaptured Kirkuk, the key northern Kurdish oil city.

This followed a fierce bombardment of Kirkuk by troops loyal to President Saddam Hussein. The rebels claimed that up to 1,000 civilians were killed in a two-day offensive as Saddam deployed the full power of his air force, including jet fighters and surface-to-air missiles. But Kurdish guerrillas reinforced their positions around Kirkuk after the bombardment which was the heaviest since they captured the city.

An official of the Kurdish Democratic Party in Damascus said shelling of the city was continuing and "hundreds of civilians are being killed". These claims were supported last night by the Pentagon. A spokesman said the administration had heard reports of Iraqi forces using chemical weapons to suppress the uprisings in the north and south of Iraq.

The rebels, who have seized control of most of northern Iraq, also claimed that up to 200,000 troops were massing in Saddam's home town of Takrit in preparation for an onslaught on Kirkuk.

Mahmoud Othman, spokesman for the Iraqi Kurdistan Front, said in Paris that Iraqi troops with 11 Scud-B missile launchers were massing on the main road north from Baghdad.

Kirkuk assault, page 8

Russian leaders keep smiling under siege

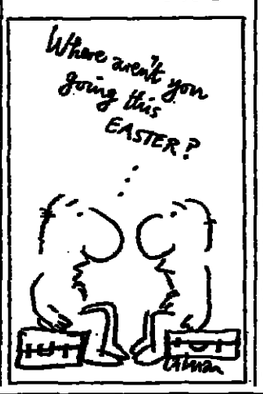
From Our Moscow Correspondent

THE extraordinary third Congress of People's Deputies of the Russian Federation assembled in the Kremlin yesterday under siege conditions. The Russian leader, Boris Yeltsin, and his presidium took their seats on the platform, to mild applause.

To derisive clapping, jeers and whistles, deputy Filippov from Leningrad proposed a declaration that the Soviet government ban on the evening's demonstration was a violation of Soviet and Russian constitutions. Mr Yeltsin, in the chair, smiled his enigmatic smile.

Successive procedural votes went Mr Yeltsin's way. Communists huffed and puffed: "We can't work in this barrack-room atmosphere." Mr Yeltsin's democrats objected, too: "We can't work surrounded by military hardware."

Deputies demanded the transfer of the congress to Leningrad: "Russia has another historic capital," said a citizen of Petrograd. "But it would be no different there. How about Geneva, or ..." — and the speaker paused for effect — "Zurich" — Lenin's last place of exile before his return to Russia to lead the Bolsheviks.



GOOD WRITING IN THE TIMES

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LANGUAGE

Philip Howard gives railspeak a platform: will passengers who have taken the 1305 to Slough please bring it back Page 12

HUMOUR

Alan Coren goes in search of a grave (his own) and finds a veritable profusion of animated busts and storeyed urns Page 12

EASTER IN THE TIMES

Eating in: Frances Bissell, *The Times* cook, suggests some Easter and Passover fare for every taste

Going out: Francesca Greenoak suggests some gardens to visit over the holiday, plus other Easter venues in town and country

Clued up: a £50 prize to each of the first five correct answers in the traditional *Times* Easter Jumbo Crossword

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★★★★★★

Going to work on a cholesterol phenomenon

By Thomson Prentice
Medical Correspondent

A MAN aged 88 who has been eating two dozen boiled eggs every day for many years has turned dietary advice upside down and given researchers new food for thought. A medical investigation into the case has shown that far from being at increased risk of heart disease, the man has remarkably low blood cholesterol levels.

Researchers discovered that the man has unusually efficient biological mechanisms that allow only a tiny amount of the cholesterol from the eggs to be absorbed into his bloodstream. The findings, reported in yesterday's issue of the *New England Journal of Medicine*, beg the question of whether the same mechanisms could offer others protection against heart disease due to cholesterol. The case of the anonymous egg eater is described in the journal by Fred Kern Jnr, a researcher at Colorado university medical school, Denver. Dr Kern heard about the man from friends, and tracked him down to a local retirement home.

A nurse at the home confirmed that about two dozen eggs were delivered to the man every day. Acquaintances said he had been eating as many as 30 soft-boiled eggs a day for at least 30 years. Doctors have diagnosed him as suffering from compulsive behaviour, but the man, who has a poor memory, cannot explain his incredible craving for eggs.

Most cholesterol in the blood is produced by the liver from a wide range of foods, but small amounts of it are absorbed from cholesterol-rich foods, of which eggs are a prime example. High blood-cholesterol levels have been shown in medical studies to increase the risk of fatty deposits building up in the arteries, leading to heart attacks or strokes.

Dr Kern says in the journal: "I asked myself how does this man have a normal cholesterol level and what happens to it all. I think we answered the question more satisfactorily than I would have anticipated."

Dr Kern's tests showed that the man absorbed only 18 per cent of the eggs' cholesterol during digestion, compared to about 50 per cent absorbed by people on low cholesterol diets. To get rid of the excess, the man's body converted it into twice the expected amount of bile acid.

The American Heart Association recommends that people limit themselves to 300 milligrams of cholesterol a day. Dr Kern's patient has a daily intake of 5,000 milligrams but his cholesterol levels are in the normal range of 150 to 200 milligrams per tenth of a litre of blood.

In an editorial in the journal, Antonio Gotto of the Methodist hospital, Houston, refers to the 1967 film *Cool Hand Luke* in which Paul Newman plays a prison inmate who eats 50 eggs in an hour to win a bet. "In the annals of cholesterol consumption, perhaps he [Cool Hand Luke] is not as remarkable" as Dr Kern's patient, Dr Gotto says.

But, he adds, until doctors better understand how the body absorbs cholesterol, individuals should be careful about the amount of the substance they eat. Guidelines in Britain suggest a weekly consumption of no more than three or four eggs.

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After 80 days of the Hillsborough inquest Times writers examine British football's worst tragedy

Families of the victims fight on for compensation

Taylor: fierce attack on state of football

By RONALD FAUX

THE jury of seven men and four women at the inquest into the Hillsborough tragedy listened for 78 days to evidence of how the disaster happened before taking two days to reach a verdict (Ronald Faux writes). More than 200 witnesses had given evidence in the longest series of inquests in legal history.

Five hours of police and television videotape captured the build-up to the tragedy on the afternoon of April 15, 1989, when Liverpool were to play Nottingham Forest in the FA Cup semi-final at the Sheffield Wednesday ground. Many families have pressed unsuccessfully for prosecutions to be brought against South Yorkshire police for their alleged failure to control the crowd. The director of public prosecutions rejected this after examining evidence from a year-long investigation by West Midlands police. But the legal wrangles continue.

The High Court was asked to apportion liability for compensation to victims' families between the police, Sheffield Wednesday football club and the engineers who designed and installed crush barriers at the ground. An out-of-court settlement was reached on behalf of the injured. But appeals brought by relatives of victims and spectators at the match open in the High Court next month. More then £140,000 has been raised to meet their legal costs. The Hillsborough steering committee, representing 300 legal firms with around 1,000 clients seeking damages, says that compensation could finally amount to more than £20 million.

Lawyers said payments based on loss of earnings had already been made to bereaved families but a High Court judge has rejected claims for compensation for the trauma suffered by the victims in the moments before they died. An appeal against this judgment will be heard next month. Appeals will also be heard on 15 test cases brought by people who suffered trauma and stress after either watching the tragedy on television or hearing of the deaths of relatives and friends. Hundreds injured in the disaster have received out-of-court settlements agreed between the insurers of South Yorkshire police and Sheffield Wednesday football club.

The disaster happened when Liverpool fans gathered in Leppings Lane shortly before 3pm, when the match was to start. Police decided to open the gates because they feared that fans trying to enter the ground would be crushed against the turnstiles. A tide of spectators entered a tunnel leading to crowded terraces. A crush barrier collapsed and a 9ft high fence around the pitch trapped spectators. The inquiry by Lord Justice Taylor heard evidence of spectators being crushed so tightly that they could not breathe. Police and stewards were taken by surprise as bodies piled up against the fence.

Lord Justice Taylor's report in January 1990 was a swingeing condemnation of the state of football. It told of failures to learn from past tragedies and pointed out that Hillsborough was the fourth enquiry after a disaster at a British ground since the second world war.

Relatives weep as jury says deaths were accidental

By RONALD FAUX

RELATIVES wept and shouted in disbelief yesterday as a Sheffield inquest jury returned a verdict of accidental death on the 95 football fans who died in the Hillsborough disaster nearly two years ago.

The Sheffield coroner's jury came to its verdict by a majority of nine to two. Its members took more than 11 hours to decide between three options open to them — unlawful killing, misadventure or accidental death, or an open verdict.

Trevor Hicks, chairman of the Hillsborough Family Support Group, which had been pinning its hopes on a verdict of unlawful killing, said the families were very angry and let down. "It is a lawful verdict but in our opinion it is immoral," he said. "In the eyes of the general public Hillsborough was an accident and we know it was not." He said the verdict was not a signal that everyone had been absolved from blame or that nothing had gone wrong.

"It is an emotional blow to all the families. We would like to know what happened to Lord Justice Taylor's interim report which said the major failing that was the cause of the disaster was the failure of police control. I can speak personally. It is and will always be my belief, and I was there, that the failure of police control cost 95 lives." Two of the victims were Mr Hick's daughters, aged 15 and 19.

The relatives drew some comfort from the fact that the verdict was not unanimous and had taken so long to reach. They still expected disciplinary action to be taken against some police officers and will be discussing with their lawyers what further legal steps remained open to them.

Mr Hicks said that costs would make further action difficult for the families. Legal fees had reached £150,000 and the families' legal representation was not funded.

The group made clear its determination to fight to have police officers criticised at the enquiry disciplined and Lord Taylor's recommendations put into force. Mr Hicks said that the group would fight on, not necessarily in the legal system.

Dr Stefan Popper, the South Yorkshire coroner, said he liked to think the time had come for some healing in the hearts and minds of everybody. He would like to believe that such a disaster would never happen again.

"Unless there is continuous vigilance and perhaps even a change of attitude I fear it will happen again," Dr Popper said. "The only safe stadium in my view is an empty one. As soon as you bring a substantial number of people together you run risks." He intended to pass on his views of safety in sports grounds and how crowds should be policed to the home secretary.

After the names of each of the 95 victims had been read out by the coroner and he announced that they had met their deaths accidentally through crush injuries sustained at the Hillsborough football ground, the coroner, lawyers, jury and relatives of the victims stood in silence for a minute. As the jury filed out relatives sang the anthem of Liverpool football club *You'll Never Walk Alone*.

Hicks: families very angry and let down

Mr Richard Wells, chief constable of South Yorkshire, told a press conference after the inquest: "Any sense of relief we do feel is very much diminished by the desolation of those who have been left short of loved ones." He said that disciplinary action would be a question for the Police Complaints Authority.

He said that the papers on six South Yorkshire officers on duty during the Hillsborough disaster, would be sent to the authority together with new evidence emerging from the inquest and details of the jury's findings. Until a decision had come from the authority the officers would wait.

Leading article, page 13

Day of disaster: Liverpool fans trying to escape crushing crowds at the Hillsborough ground in April 1989

Disaster ended supremacy of the hooligans

By BILL FROST

THE tragedy of Hillsborough forced everyone involved in football, and some who were not, to finally address the sport's most pressing issues.

In the wake of the disaster has come the beginning of a healing process with moves towards reducing football violence, a restoration of pride among supporters and a confident belief in the game's future.

Today's most urgent consideration is hooliganism. It was demonstrated graphically in Brussels on Wednesday night, when 77 Welsh supporters were arrested during fighting before the Belgium-Wales game. In London, on the same night, almost 70 arrests were made before and after England met Ireland at Wembley. However, the numbers involved in organised violence appears to be dwindling. The hard-core hooligans are now in their late 20s or early 30s and the gangs are not attracting younger recruits.

Rogan Taylor, chairman of the Football Supporters' Association at the time of the Hillsborough disaster, said: "It took a Hillsborough to change attitudes and set a new agenda."

Closed circuit television, more effective policing and segregation of rival fans have helped to cut violence. But many involved in football believe that the most important element has been a dramatic change in attitude among most supporters, a change flowing directly from the events at Hillsborough. Garth Crooks, a former Tottenham player and a past chairman of the Professional Footballers' Association, said: "People are no longer willing to tolerate mob rule post-Hillsborough. It was the final outrage and shook everybody. The minority of trouble-makers is now turned on by the majority."

England's performance at the World Cup also concentrated many minds. John Williams, co-director of the Centre for Football Research at Leicester university, said that research among 1,000 supporters who went to Italy showed that the performance of the England side had a good effect on spectator behaviour. The British public watching the World Cup at home also became less interested in hooliganism and more concerned with how the national team was faring.

Mr Crooks said that England's World Cup performance gave the game an injection of pride and confidence it had needed for 20 years. "We are now seen as one of the top footballing nations in the world."

Figures compiled by Mr Williams show that the number of arrests at Football League games since Hillsborough has increased from 6,185 in 1988/89, to 6,466 in 1989/90. Ejections from grounds have decreased from 7,607 to 6,973 over the same period. Mr Williams said: "The figures show there is still a hooligan problem, but now there is a will to deal with it."

Denis Howell, the shadow sports minister, said that Hillsborough had begun a process of change which had been further helped by England's World Cup performance. "There is much less aggravation on the terraces now, much less unhappiness with each other among rival fans. The malaise is being dealt with: clubs are doing something, there is a recognition that football is a decent game attracting decent supporters once more."

But the renaissance is fragile, as Wednesday night's events underlined. Mr Crooks knows that the hard core of hooligans is still in evidence: "Those who care about English football will always have to be vigilant: the potential for violence has not gone away. But, that said, after Hillsborough and the World Cup, I believe we are on the road to creating a formidable reputation for the game, and rehabilitating the reputation of our fans."

'Mad cow' evidence could hit live animal exports

By MICHAEL HORNSBY, AGRICULTURE CORRESPONDENT

EVIDENCE suggesting that mad cow disease can pass from a dam to her calf and is not confined to animals that ate infected feed, could hit the multi-million pound export of live animals.

Almost all countries outside the European Community have stopped importing live cattle from Britain due to the epidemic of bovine spongiform encephalopathy (BSE) that has so far led to the destruction of 25,800 cattle, mainly from dairy farms.

Exports within the EC, the main market, continue except for breeding stock. Last year, Britain exported 345,800 cattle worth £40.5 million, more than half of them to France. The only condition is that the animals must be under six months, which most exported cattle traditionally have been.

Part of the reason for allowing the trade to continue has been that the animals are too young to have been exposed to the presumed source of BSE infection: cattle rations containing meat and bone meal derived from the rendered remains of sheep infected with scrapie, a related disease.

That presumption has, however, taken a knock with the disclosure this week by the agriculture ministry that a calf born to a BSE-affected dam in November 1988, four months after protein from sheep and other ruminants was banned in cattle feed, had developed the disease. Maternal transmission seems to be the likely explanation. The case is the first to be reported. However, the disease has an incubation period of up to six years.

David Clark, Labour's agriculture spokesman, called yesterday for the culling of all calves born to BSE-affected mothers. The ministry said, however, that that would destroy thousands of healthy animals without any benefit.

Government experts admit that maternal transmission would make it harder to eradicate BSE, but say that even if every cow with BSE infected its young, the disease would still be self-limiting because only one in five calves grows up to have calves of its own.

Scientists also hope that maternal transmission will occur only infrequently. They are encouraged by a ministry experiment in which 316 calves born to cows with BSE have been monitored for almost three years. None has developed BSE even though 262 of them are older than the case so far reported from the field. About 350 new cases of BSE are reported each week.

France, meanwhile, has reported the second confirmed case of BSE in its dairy herd. This case, like the first a month ago, occurred in Brittany. France and Switzerland, where there have been two confirmed cases, are the only countries outside the British Isles to have reported BSE in locally-born cattle.

Minister insists poll tax is dead

By NICHOLAS WOOD, POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

THE structure of the local tax that the government hopes will replace the community charge may be indicated in consultation papers to be issued after Easter, Michael Heseltine said yesterday.

The environment secretary has been under pressure from Conservative and Labour MPs to be more specific about his formula for replacing the poll tax. Yesterday, he dismissed accusations of "dithering" and emphasised the need to take "proper measured time to flesh out the principles and structure" of the new tax which, it has already been disclosed, will combine a charge on people and on property. He indicated, however, that the poll tax committee chaired by the prime minister might accede to demands to give a clear lead.

Mr Heseltine said on BBC Radio 4's *Today* programme. "It might be right to narrow to one preferred option. But we haven't taken a final decision on that. Even if we do, we will still set out different refinements."

Speaking shortly before the bill reducing the community charge by £140 a head received royal assent, he also hinted that the poll tax register might be retained under a new system because of the proposed head tax element. He denied, however, that a new local tax would retain an element of the community charge. He promised "one tax" and insisted that the poll tax was dead, although its funeral had been delayed by the practicalities of moving from one system to another.

Tory insiders were claiming yesterday that Mr Heseltine was making the best of a bad job. They said he had been defeated by Mr Major and cabinet colleagues in his quest for a return to an unadorned property tax. They said that he had been isolated by a cabal of ministers including Ian Lang, the Scottish secretary, and Norman Lamont, the Chancellor.

The environment secretary conceded in his interview that there had been differences in the committee about the nature of the poll tax replacement. Ministers had not "sung in unison" from the outset, but to expect otherwise was to misunderstand cabinet government. "Of course, there is always an element of debate and discussion. That's called democracy."

Mr Heseltine shrugged off reports last weekend that he and Mr Lamont had clashed over the people element in the tax. He said that they had had a "good laugh" about such claims. They had worked closely with the prime minister during the review.

If ministers opt for a broad balance between people and property levies in the new tax, it would spike the guns of those such as Nigel Lawson, the former chancellor, who have warned ministers against flirting with a "son of poll tax" formula in which the head count element predominates.

Architects turn to helpline and counselling as boom turns sour

Those who fared best in the Eighties boom are being hit hardest by the recession. In the first of a series of reports on how the slump is hitting the professions, Christopher Warman examines the plight of architects

ARCHITECTS facing problems after the recession hit the property market and all working in it have had their own "helpline" since the end of last year, when it was set up by their professional body, the Royal Institute of British Architects (Riba).

Last month, the Chartered Institute of Building announced that for the first time in its 157 years it had set up a counselling and advisory service for members laid off due to the recession in the construction industry.

These two examples show how badly the professions in property have been affected by the property slump. The property cycle, boom to bust and back, normally takes five years or so, but the professionals, including estate agents qualified through the Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors and the Incorporated Society of Valuers and Auctioneers, cannot remember as bad a time. This is partly because there had never been as rapid an expansion as that of the Eighties, which brought unprecedented growth for architects.

Next week, Riba figures will show that architects' work was down by at least 50 per cent in the last quarter of 1990 compared with the same period of 1989, when the boom was about to end. A Riba spokesman said yesterday: "The South-East and London have been badly hit, but the recession is having a ripple effect that is now affecting the Midlands, North and Scotland. At present there are lay-offs in the South-East and, elsewhere, 'no vacancies'."

Riba is offering help from a job counsellor to architects being made redundant. The spokesman said: "Some have reached the age of 50 and have never been in a job centre, and cannot go in saying 'I have 15 years' experience in commercial design, what have you got for me?'"

Nearly half the architects' firms employ one or two people, and they are hanging on, coping with less work. Bigger practices shedding staff, and some architects made redundant, are starting up on their own with low overheads.

One of the larger companies, YRM, recently reported a fall of 36 per cent in profits for the last six months. It has cut staff by 12 per cent to 454, deferred a salary review and closed one of its three central London offices.

Aukett Associates, the third-largest firm in Britain, has also suffered in the recession. Gerry Deighton, its chairman, said that the big corporations were more cautious in commissioning work. The property world had been seriously affected by economic conditions, and, although things were beginning to level out, it would be the end of 1991 or early 1992 before architects saw a recovery because of the time lag.

The Riba spokesman said architects were "hanging on for grim life, trying to stay in business, keeping turnover going, and hoping for an upturn in the summer".

Three months ago, the Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors began to monitor employment in the profession, and has found big increases in unemployed members and members seeking jobs. Ted Watts, senior vice-president, said yesterday that, since January, the number of unemployed had grown from 450 to 520. This was not a great increase in itself because there was evidence that many people made redundant found jobs elsewhere, particularly with local authorities and charities, although these did not pay as much as other firms.

"By no means would I say that we have reached the end of the trough," Mr Watts said. "It may be that we have, but there is no indication yet in the statistics. There are signs, however, that members are moving away from employment within the profession and taking their skills to work for other companies."

Explaining the Chartered Institute of Building's decision to offer counselling, Keith Banbury, chief executive, said: "This recession is perhaps the worst to hit the construction industy since 1945, and forecasts suggest there could be a million unemployed people in building by the end of the year."

The institute's new, emergency service includes a free "situations wanted" advertisement in the members' journal, reduced membership fees and a redundancy information pack.

In the mid-Eighties, no one in property could have foreseen such a dramatic change. They are learning the lesson the hard way.

Truck firm cuts 200 jobs as sales fall

THE truckmakers Leyland DAF yesterday announced up to 200 job losses at plants in Scotland and the north of England as part of a cost-cutting operation blamed on falling sales.

One hundred jobs are to go at its Albion axle factory in Scotstoun, Glasgow, which employs 650, and 40 at its plants at Leyland and Chorley in Lancashire, which together employ 3,500.

Its engine rebuilding plant at St Helens, Merseyside, which employs 65, is to be sold. The company said it had lined up two possible buyers, but if the plant could not be sold it would be closed. The move comes after losses this year of £46 million by the DAF group. The restructuring needed to bring it back into profit would itself cost £25 million, the company said.

Sugar Puffs withdrawn

Thousands of packets of Sugar Puffs breakfast cereal have been withdrawn because a free toy inside might be swallowed by children.

The packets, of which 150,000 have been sold, are marked: "Sticky Flickers: a stretchy plastic toy which sticks with a flick." Quaker Oats said that the toy was nontoxic and was given British and European safety certificates. While there were no reports of problems, it had been advised that if the toy was broken, children might confuse it with a sweet.

Victim named

An army captain's wife stabbed to death in a remote forest in Northern Ireland was named by police as Penelope McAllister, aged 24. Mrs McAllister was murdered as she walked her dog in Drumkerragh forest, Co Down, on Wednesday. A friend of Mrs McAllister was also stabbed but managed to escape. Police described the attack as frenzied and said the motive was probably sexual.

Driver charged

A lorry driver is to face five charges of causing death by reckless driving in a motorway pile-up on the A1 at Darlington, County Durham, in January. The crash, near roadworks, involved nine cars and three lorries, with one car exploding. The victims, four men and a woman, were so badly burned it took five days to identify them. The driver will appear before Darlington magistrates on April 12.

Joyrider deaths

Three joyriders killed when the stolen car they were driving crashed in west Belfast on Monday were named yesterday as Gerard Maguire and Terence Murphy, both aged 15, and Kieran Duffy, aged 16. Police took almost 20 hours to identify them. Every day about 15 cars are stolen and driven at speed through the area. Some joyriders have been shot dead after crashing through army checkpoints.

New editor

Martin Dunn, the deputy editor of *The Sun*, is to become the editor of his News International sister paper *Today*, the group announced yesterday. David Montgomery, editor of *Today* since 1987, moves to a senior executive position within The News Corporation, the parent company of News International. *Today* moved to the group's plant in Wapping, east London, earlier this week.

Buying The Times overseas
Austria Sch 32; Belgium B Frs 60; Canada $2.75; Canaries Pes 220; Cyprus 90 cents; Denmark Dkr 16.00; Finland Mkk 12.00; France F 11.00; W Germany DM 4.00; Gibraltar 80p; Greece Dr 300; Holland Gl 4.00; Irish Republic 45p; Italy L 3,000; Luxembourg Lf 65; Madeira Esc 220; Malta 43c; Morocco Dir 20.00; Norway Kr 14.00; Pakistan Rps 18; Portugal Esc 220; Spain Pes 220; Sweden Skr 16.00; Switzerland S Frs 3.50; Tunisia Din 1.50; USA $3.00.

Police chief predicts cuts will damage effectiveness

By Craig Seton

SPENDING cuts totalling £2.4 million were announced yesterday in the budget for Derbyshire police, in spite of a warning from the chief constable that they could damage police effectiveness.

The reduction in the £56 million budget was agreed at a meeting of the Labour-controlled police committee in the same week that figures showed that recorded crime in the county had risen by almost a quarter over the year.

The budget was approved in spite of a report from John Newing, the chief constable, which said that the cuts would seriously affect the force's efficiency and its ability to respond to big crimes, disasters and public disorder. Conservative councillors failed in a motion to have the spending reductions rescinded in the light of the "disastrous" crime figures.

Last year Geoffrey Dear, Inspector of Constabulary for the Midlands, wrote a strongly critical report on the force, saying that it was on the brink of inefficiency because of a bureaucratic strangehold on spending by the Labour-led county council. He described the state of buildings as extraordinary and gave a warning that the computer system was close to breakdown. Mr Dear is to inspect the force again this summer to see what improvements have been made.

Kenneth Baker, the home secretary, said that Mr Dear's report was one of the worst on any force and blamed the council for the state of Derbyshire police.

The new cuts will freeze recruitment and reduce forensic science support by £40,000. Travel and subsistence expenses are also to be reduced. Bob Jones, chairman of the police committee, yesterday blamed the cuts on the government's decision last year to community-charge cap the council.

He said that the cuts were the police budget's share of a £40 million reduction ordered by the government in county council spending, although in percentage terms the force was suffering a smaller reduction than other areas of the council's spending. He added: "It is not a position we like to be in."

Mr Jones said he estimated that the force would be at least 100 officers under strength by the end of the next financial year and about 100 other support posts would remain unfilled.

Murders 'indicate true level of crime'

By Quentin Cowdry
Home Affairs Correspondent

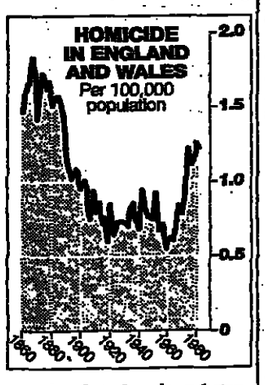
HOME Office researchers are taking increased interest in homicide statistics in their attempt to cut through the maze of distortions that surround crime figures.

For criminologists, homicide statistics have one great merit. As most murders come to the police's attention, the records for homicides mirror very closely the number of murders actually committed in any given period. With other crimes, only a proportion are reported to the police, making the task of assessing real crime levels much more difficult.

In the ten years after 1979, recorded homicides increased by an average of 0.5 per cent a year, reaching 576 in 1989. That compares with average annual increases of 6 per cent for violent offences against the person, 11 per cent for rape, 10 per cent for robbery and 4 per cent for burglary.

Examination of homicide statistics over a much longer period provides a powerful antidote to the widely held belief that British society has become ever more violent.

In absolute terms, the 676 murders recorded in 1990 were roughly double the number noted by police in 1860 when the Home Office began compiling crime figures for England and Wales. However, when total population is taken into account, the risk of being murdered today is substantially less than it was in mid-Victorian times.



The highest homicide levels were recorded in the late 1860s, when the rate was 1.8 murders per 100,000 population. However, between around 1870 and the start of the first world war the murder rate plummeted. It then remained roughly stable to around the late 1950s, at which point it began climbing rapidly. The present rate is 1.3 murders per 100,000, still significantly below the "high" of 1860.

A Home Office study published last year concluded: "To judge from the figures for recorded homicides, which are more trustworthy than those for other forms of crime, mid-Victorian England was a more violent society than our own."

Researchers believe that changes in the murder rate are linked to fluctuations in other violent crimes, though the unreliability of the non-murder statistics means that it is almost impossible to say how closely they are related.

Researchers are less certain, though, about whether there is a link with the general crime rate. Simon Field, of the Home Office's research unit, believes that violent offences and property crimes are inversely related. In a paper published last autumn, he suggested that crimes such as burglaries and car thefts rose as disposable incomes fell, while the number of violent crimes decreased.

MIKE POWELL

A high old time: the Crown Jewels perfecting their cheerleading routines for the London Monarchs' opening home game against the New York Knights at Wembley on Sunday. The newly-formed World League of American Football decreed that the Monarchs had to have British cheerleaders (John Blandy writes). So twenty-two women were chosen to cheer on the armoured heroes of the gridiron after replying to advertisements. Jay Howarth, a Californian sports dance choreographer who is training them, said: "The British girls have really taken to it. We are going to have a great team." Few of the Crown Jewels will much care who wins the match. They have hardly met the London Monarchs, who are mostly American.

Wembley date, page 28

Liverpool Playhouse saved by debt deal

By Simon Tait
Arts Correspondent

THE Liverpool Playhouse, Britain's oldest repertory theatre, has been saved from liquidation, according to Frank Taylor, the insolvency expert appointed by the High Court to rescue it.

"I believe we have made it. All now depends on the creditors' meeting I have called on April 8," said Mr Taylor, who saved Tranmere Rovers football club from receivership in 1987.

He will ask the creditors to accept half the £900,000 they are owed, to be paid by the end of June, and write off the rest, giving them more than they would receive if the theatre went into receivership. An alternative offer will be 25p in the pound with 75p in loan notes which carry no guarantee of payment.

Mr Taylor was appointed in January to try to divert receivership by the end of March. The biggest creditor, National Westminster Bank which is owed £600,000, had been "constructively helpful", he said.

The offer had been made possible by last week's announcement by Liverpool city council, Knowsley district council and the Merseyside Task Force that they would repeat last year's grant of £120,000 for 1991-92 and increase it by £250,000 to add to the Arts Council's £527,000 allocation.

Fifteen members of the 70-strong company, including the sponsorship and development manager, were made redundant. John Stalker, the administrative director, and Ian Kellgren, artistic director, remain.

☐ The 10-year old Almeida Theatre, in Islington, north London, is to close following a decision by the London Borough Grants Committee to cut its £55,000 grant.

The committee has cut subsidies totalling £400,000 for 14 companies. Others include Greenwich Theatre, the Institute of Contemporary Arts, the King's Head Theatre and the Photographers Gallery. The Royal Court Theatre will be funded for another year.

State school head boosts his pay to £44,311

By David Tytler, Education Editor

A STATE school headmaster has persuaded his governors to pay him an extra £7,000 a year in addition to the £5,000 he was due to receive under a government pay award. His new salary of £44,311 would make him one of the highest paid teachers in the country.

The governors of Reddish Vale School, Stockport, have agreed in principle to pay the money, provided savings of about £1 million a year can be found elsewhere in the school budget. They have also agreed to rises of £5,700 for the two deputies, about twice the figure they would have received, bringing their pay to £33,066.

Reg Denning, head of the 1,200-pupil school, refused to discuss the deal. "People are entitled to know the facts when it has been dealt with by the governors," he said. The final decision will be made at their April meeting, when governors will discuss ways of saving the money.

Jim Hendy, Stockport's director of education, said that the children in the school would suffer. "There is no getting away from the fact that no matter how the head rationalises the savings, those funds could have been used for books, equipment or support staff." He said the decision would make it more difficult for him to argue for more funds for schools if the education committee thought they would be used to pay increased salaries.

Pat Halliday, chairman of the governors, told *The Times Educational Supplement* that the rises would not be allowed to affect the education of pupils. Andy Dixon, an executive member of the National Union of Teachers and a secondary teacher in Stockport, said: "This is going to cause ill-feeling and it is very divisive when most teachers are facing pay rises well below inflation to see individual heads trying to cream off school funds."

Mike Moran, head of King Edward VI school, Bury St Edmunds, warned the annual conference of the Secondary Heads Association last week not to reach for the "greed button". He said some heads were topping up their salaries to the detriment of teachers.

☐ Funding proposals sent to vice-chancellors yesterday by the Universities Funding Council have failed to provide detailed targets to allow for long-term planning.

The council refused to discuss the proposals. It is understood that they contain broad national targets for expansion and not the detailed scheme requested by vice-chancellors. The arrangements are being introduced after the collapse of the bidding system and will favour universities which increase the number of fees-only students who receive a single grant for their tuition fees.

The council believes that will allow universities to increase their student numbers without extra cost to local authorities who have been responsible for student fees. According to the *The Times Higher Education Supplement*, universities will receive funding for 9,000 extra students a year until 1994-5, with the year-on-year increase rising from 303,700 in 1991-2 to 329,000.

Highlands records big suicide rate

By Kerry Gill

SCIENTISTS have discovered that the Scottish Highlands has one of the highest suicide rates among men in Britain, dispelling the area's image of peace and stress-free contentment.

The findings, published today in the *British Medical Journal* by Iain Crombie, of Ninewells hospital, Dundee, are so far unexplained and the study shows no association between suicide rates and unemployment. That, said Dr Crombie, was unexpected "as unemployment is known to be associated with many measures of social deprivation that might themselves be associated with high suicide rates".

The study concentrated on the period from 1974 to 1986. It was found that almost all the highest suicide rates among men occurred in northern Scotland. There were 95 more deaths from suicide in the region than expected whereas, apart from two exceptions, low rates were found exclusively in the central belt of Scotland.

Dr Crombie said: "The districts with low mortality were in the central belt of Scotland, which is associated with high population density, heavy industry and social disadvantage. Mental illness is by far the most important risk factor for suicide, so one possible explanation for these findings would be a regional variation in the incidence of mental illness, particularly among men."

Another reason, he said, might be sociological although factors would differ from those identified with inner-city deprivation. He added: "Certainly the conventional view of the rural idyll in the Scottish Highlands, of contentment and freedom from stress, does not seem to be borne out." Another rural pocket of high suicide rates among men was in southwest Dumfries and Galloway.

Recently a study by Dr Crombie, senior lecturer in Ninewells' epidemiology department, showed that the suicide rate in Scotland was 30 per cent higher among men and 20 per cent higher among women than in England and Wales, a reversal of the trend for most of this century. One cause, he said, could be a rise in feelings of personal isolation due to changes in society.

Plan ahead drivers are told

By Kevin Eason
Motoring Correspondent

MOTORING organisations are bracing themselves for one of the busiest weekends of the year. The RAC expects 50,000 calls for roadside assistance, with 10,000 of those on Tuesday in the return home.

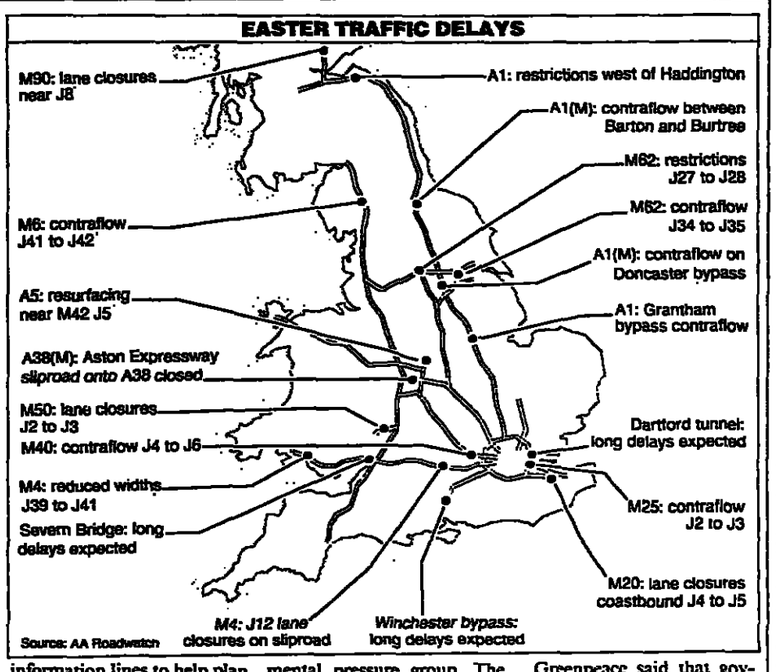
Major roadworks have been suspended or scaled down to make way for the rush, but the AA and RAC last night advised motorists to check before setting out. AA Roadwatch said that traditional blackspots were certain to be busy. They include the Dartford tunnel, the Winchester bypass, the Severn bridge and the A1M Doncaster bypass. There are also many special Easter weekend events which may cause congestion.

The AA and RAC also urged motorists to check their cars thoroughly. The AA said: "A lot of emergency calls are caused by something the motorist forgot to check before and which could have been avoided. Drivers should always check the fan belt, engine fluids, such as oil and water, and the tyres and battery." The RAC has set up information lines to help plan journeys and give details of traffic conditions. They are 0898 500242 for Britain and 0898 500241 for Europe, charged at 33p a minute off-peak and 44p at other times.

● Traffic increased in all parts of the country during 1983-9 according to a report by Greenpeace, the environmental pressure group. The report, entitled *Mad Car Disease*, says that during those years traffic increased in the Southeast by 55.9 per cent; in East Anglia by 51.3 per cent; in the South West by 46.2 per cent; in Scotland by 45.6 per cent; in the North by 40.5 per cent; and in Yorkshire and Humberside by 35.4 per cent.

Greenpeace said that government measures to combat car pollution were grossly inadequate and called for a more environmentally-benign approach to transport. That would include an end to road building and to taxpayers' subsidies for cars.

Chaos on the roads, page 1



M&S will absorb VAT rises

By Paul Wilkinson

THE Marks and Spencer stores chain fired the opening shots of a new price war yesterday by deciding to absorb the 2.5 percentage point increase in VAT at least until midsummer. It will cost the company £25 million over the next three months on estimated sales of £1 billion.

Most big retailers are expected to follow suit as they fight to keep their place in a market still stifled by the recession. BhS, the first store to react, said that it would not be imposing a blanket 2.5 point rise after April 1 although a spokeswoman said there would be "certain rises" because of higher manufacturing costs.

Marks and Spencer says it will share the cost of absorbing the tax rise with suppliers. It will mount a publicity campaign over the Easter weekend aimed at potential holiday shoppers. Hugh Clark, assistant director of the Retail Consortium, said that stores had been opposed to any VAT increase as they would put further pressure on a strained market.

Bishop steps in as church grows into neighbour's territory

New arrivals in a Hertfordshire parish are providing a test of the phenomenon of evangelism by the technique of "church planting", **Ruth Gledhill** reports

THE arrival of dozens of charismatic Christians, gifted with speaking in tongues, in a Watford parish that practises traditional evangelical worship is a test case of methods in the Church of England.

Bishop David Pytches, formerly of Bolivia, Chile and Peru, and now vicar of neighbouring St Andrew's, says there was no more room in his Chorleywood parish for the hundreds wanting to worship there. His answer was "church planting", creating a new congregation, a phenomenon soon to be examined by the general synod's House of Bishops.

Tradition demands, however, that even evangelism should have limits, and in the Church of England these are parish boundaries. Church law says that no minister should exercise his ministry "in any place in which he has not the cure of souls". John Woodger has that role in the St Mary's parish where Bishop Pytches has started a congregation.

Bishop Pytches's new congregation stays within the letter of the law, if not the spirit. Although it is just yards from Mr Woodger's church, it is led by a layman.

Bishop Pytches and his assistant, Bishop Brian Skinner, formerly of Valparaiso, admit resisting parish limits and urge others to do the same. They have published a book, *New Wineskins*, arguing that the parish system "inhibits the renewal and growth of the Church of England". They say: "Church planting should be part of the agenda".

Bishop Pytches said that St Andrew's had already planted two new churches in its parish, in a school and a community centre, and had nowhere else to go. Mr Woodger, who calls them a "signs and wonders sect", has stayed calm while the Rt Rev John Taylor, Bishop of St Albans, tries to resolve the affair. Mr Woodger and his two episcopal neighbours remain friends. Today, their congregations take part in simultaneous Good Friday meditation services.

Friendly rivals: Bishop Pytches and John Woodger

St Andrew's, Chorleywood, is the kind of church of which bishops dream. It began as a tin hut in 1908 and was built up to near its present strength in the Sixties and early Seventies. Every few years, the building has been enlarged to keep up with a growing congregation, now exceeding 1,000. The church pays a hefty diocesan quota, with £100,000 a year left over for worthy causes. A £320,000 building appeal is only £80,000 from its target. The congregation is so generous, giving an expected £220,000 this financial year, that the parish has paid staff. Local churchmen call it "the diocese of Chorleywood".

In an article on church planting in *Church Growth Digest*, the Archbishop of Canterbury, Dr George Carey, warns of problems when boundaries are crossed. "Think before you leap," he urges.

However, Bishop Pytches said: "One of the reasons why we spilled off into Watford was because we looked on our computer and found we had about 50 people coming from Watford. We thought, how can we get them back into Watford. We wanted them to have some kind of service in Watford like the one we had."

The only available venue was the Get Set community centre, 300 yards from St Mary's. The service, which Bishop Pytche calls an *agapé*, or love feast, is led by a gifted layman, Peter Adams, and attracts about 150, including doctors, businessmen and two army majors.

Bishop Pytches said: "We believe in the Church of England, we love it. Many clergy are battling against great odds. We want to find a way to allow life to burgeon."

Mr Woodger said: "It is a bit insensitive on their part to move into another parish, albeit having a bishop as their vicar." Mr Woodger's congregation, of 400, worships in traditional evangelical style, sometimes led by a band.

The Bishop of St Albans, who has asked the House of Bishops to discuss church planting, is leading negotiations to move the congregation to a church in a nearby parish.

● The Church of England is advertising on radio to get more people to go to church on Easter Day. The promotion, on Fox FM Radio in Buckinghamshire and Oxfordshire today and tomorrow, is by the Oxford diocese.

Geneticists link test to deformities in unborn babies

By THOMSON PRENTICE, MEDICAL CORRESPONDENT

A METHOD of diagnosing abnormalities in pregnancy may cause some foetal malformations, according to a study by geneticists. The technique, chorion villus sampling, or CVS, is linked with severe limb abnormalities subsequently identified in a group of babies studied by researchers in Oxford.

The method, in which a small tissue sample is taken from the edge of the placenta and analysed, is meant to detect chromosomal disorders, such as Down's syndrome, or genetic diseases, in the foetus. The test is usually reserved for older women or for those with a family history of such conditions.

Among 289 pregnancies in which CVS was performed, five babies were later found to have severe abnormalities including stunted limbs and missing fingers and toes. The normal incidence is one per 175,000 live births. The tests were carried out when the mothers, aged between 34 and 39, were eight to ten weeks pregnant, an earlier stage than in previous safety studies. The doctors from the Churchill hospital and the John Radcliffe maternity hospital discuss four of the five cases in their report. Two babies were delivered normally, one pregnancy was terminated at 19 weeks, and one baby, born five weeks premature and delivered by Caesarian section, died after 27 hours. The study suggests that the technique could disrupt the normal development of the foetus.

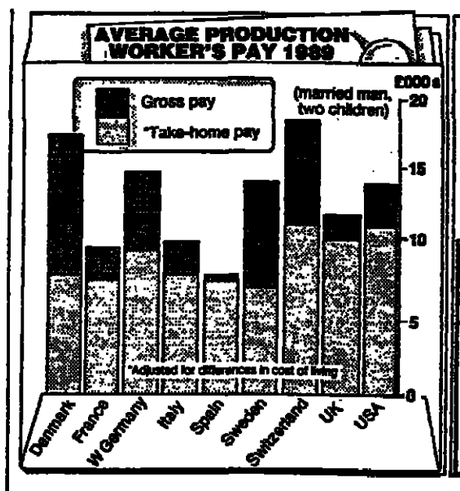
"Although we recognise that this cluster of cases may have occurred by chance, we are concerned that CVS ... may have been the cause of the severe abnormalities," the specialists say.

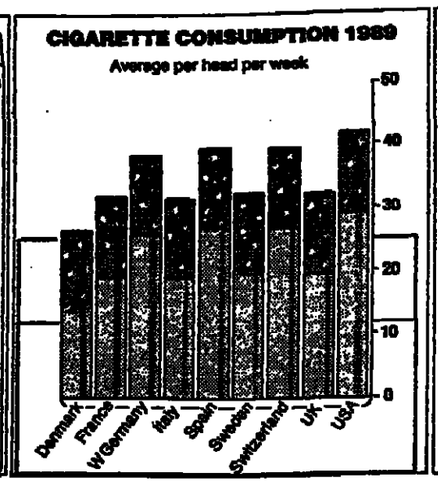
☐ Private infertility clinics are causing too many women to have hazardous multiple births that overload NHS neonatal intensive care units, specialists say in two medical journals today.

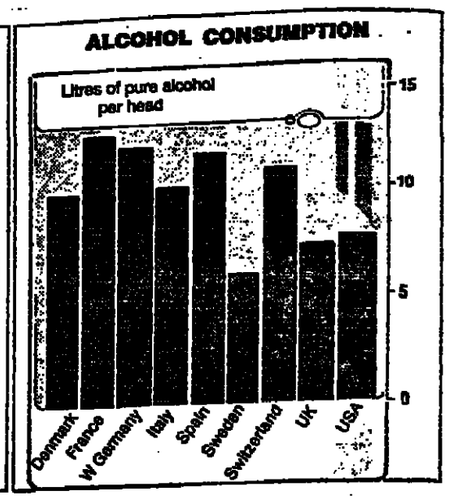
A study published in *The Lancet* shows a six-fold increase during three years in the number of twins, triplets or quadruplets admitted to one such unit at Birmingham maternity hospital as a result of infertility treatment. The arrival of quads halved the number of cots available for other babies, obstetricians and paediatricians at the hospital say.

An editorial on the same subject in the *British Medical Journal* says: "Most treatment for infertility is provided in the private sector, whose workers do not have to confront the consequences for the NHS and the community of caring for women with multiple births and their children." The editorial, written by Doris Campbell, senior lecturer in obstetrics and gynaecology at Aberdeen university, points out that such babies tend to be premature and of low birthweight, and may have other complications.

☐ Babies born as a result of infertility treatment might be at higher risk of heart malformations, paediatricians at Turin university report in *The Lancet*.







British workers 'among world's wealthiest'

By TIM JONES, EMPLOYMENT CORRESPONDENT

RECESSION-battered Britain is among the world's wealthiest nations, according to a survey of 11 European countries and the United States by the Economist Intelligence Group.

Only the Swiss and Americans have more purchasing power than the British, who also emerge as the best drivers and among the most fertile and the least hypochondriac.

While the heavily taxed average Swedish production worker with two children struggles along on £7,156 a year take-home pay, his British counterpart has £10,061 to spend. Their Swiss and American counterparts get along on £11,726 and £11,655 respectively.

The survey, *Business Comparisons*, based largely on figures for 1989, aims to help businesses and government officials avoid making expensive mistakes by assuming a steryotyped view of the "foreigners" they have to deal with. The Italians, for example, in spite of the image of big matriarchal Catholic families, are not the most fertile in Europe: they have Europe's, possibly the world's, lowest birth rate, with 9.7 births a year per 1,000 population. Italy's fertility rate, measuring the average number of children born per woman, has dropped to 1.3, compared to 1.8 for the UK.

When it comes to drinking, the British are mere beginners. Only the Swedes, it seems, who pay four times as much for a bottle of whisky as the Italians, consume less than us. While the French consume a liver-shattering 13.7 litres of pure alcohol a year, the British drink only 7.1 litres. The Germans, the heaviest beer drinkers, make do on 12.2 litres while health-conscious Americans, who consume substantially more soft drinks and mineral water than Europeans, swill down 7.6 litres.

Perhaps because of their love of wine, the French are prescribed on average 29 medicines a year while the average Swede gets only five. For the UK, the figure is 7.3. Americans smoke more cigarettes than anyone, 2,100 a year per head of adult population. The British puff their way through 1,677 while the Dutch manage only 1,131.

The British are third in the table for deaths per 100,000 of the population a year. The latest figures show a mortality rate of 853, behind Belgium on 879 and Denmark on 868, and ahead of Switzerland, with 701, and France at 732. The British lead the rest for heart attacks, strokes and for respiratory diseases, such as bronchitis, emphysema and asthma.

The French head the league table of those who die from chronic liver disease at 20 per 100,000 of population against 5.4 in Britain. The survey shows that more British women, 41 per 100,000 population, die of breast cancer compared with the next highest on the list, the Danes, on 40.3.

When it comes to fat intake, the Belgians are unmatched. Their daily intake of 199.8 grams per person a day compares with a UK figure of 146 grams. Denmark has more suicides, 27 per 100,000 population, compared with the UK figure of 8.4, but the life expectancy in all countries is remarkably similar. In Britain, for males, it is 73 and for women, 78. For Italy, the figures are 74 and 80 respectively.

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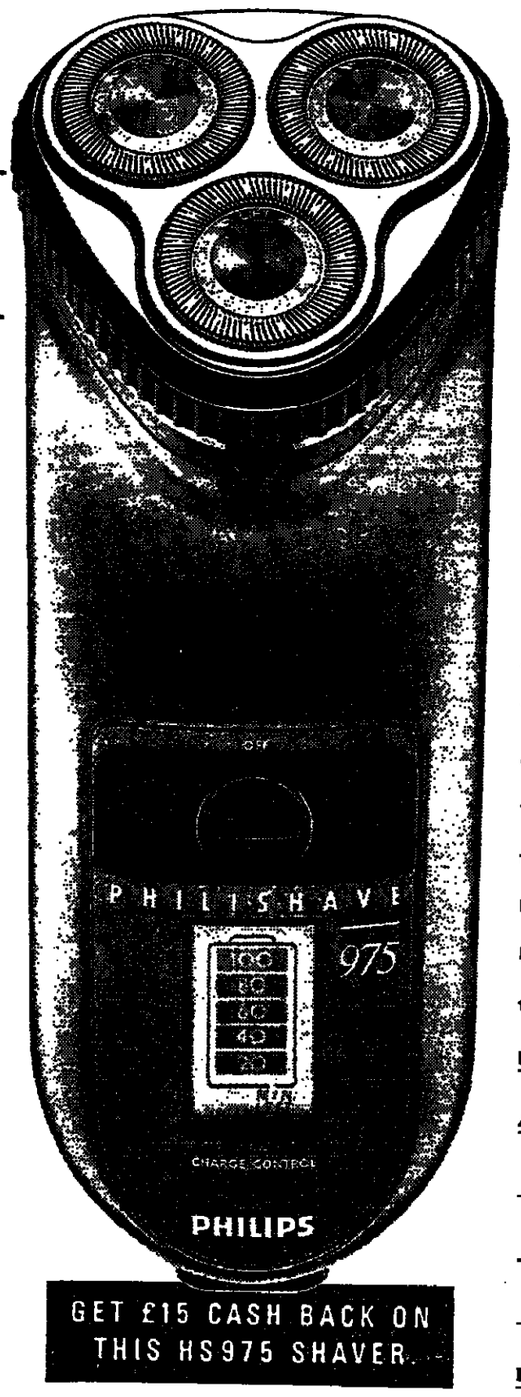

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PHILIPS

No money on return of Shergar

By ROBIN YOUNG

SHERGAR, the racehorse kidnapped from the Aga Khan's Irish stud in 1983, may be alive and well and out to grass in the Channel Islands, but nobody is putting money on it.

Steve Chappell, deputy chairman of Lloyds bloodstock committee, confirmed yesterday that he had been contacted by a bounty hunter seeking to negotiate a reward for identifying Shergar's whereabouts. The horse has not been seen since being stolen from the Ballymany stud in Co Kildare and is believed to have been destroyed a few days later.

Mr Chappell said: "I am very sceptical. The people who claim to have found the horse are trying to negotiate a finders' fee, but Lloyds will not be paying any money."

Underwriters have paid £3,625,000 to Shergar's owners on the presumption that the racehorse was shot after the kidnappers' demands for a £2 million ransom were refused. The finders' fee asked for is £362,500, 10 per cent of the insurance payout.

Shergar was said to have been worth at least £10 million after winning the 1981 Derby and the same season's Irish Derby and the King George VI and Queen Elizabeth Diamond Stakes at Ascot. If found alive he would be immensely valuable at stud, as he would be only 13 years' old.

Criticism worries police chief

By CRAIG SETON

RONALD Hadfield, the chief constable of the West Midlands, yesterday expressed "great concern" that the Court of Appeal had judged police evidence in the case of the Birmingham Six to have been unreliable.

He said he accepted the findings of Lords Justices Lloyd, Mustill and Farquharson, who this week gave their reasons for freeing the Six. The judges said that at best police officers had lied when they said in court in 1975 that interview notes were contemporaneous and at worst they conspired to fabricate part of an interview.

Mr Hadfield said that the Director of Public Prosecutions would, after receiving a report from Devon and Cornwall police, consider whether officers should face charges.

Hadfield: accepts judges' findings

Satellite jobs to go

As many as 30 jobs are to go at British Sky Broadcasting as a result of the merger between Sky Television and British Satellite Broadcasting and in the aftermath of the Gulf war.

The company said that there would be significant redundancies among the 240 employees of the 24-hour Sky News service but would not confirm the number. "We could not make cuts while the war was on but now it has been concluded, Sky News is being rationalised," a spokesman said. The job losses will affect freelance employees and staff.

Robber jailed

Mark Fitzpatrick, aged 20, who lived in a tent at Farnborough, Hampshire, was jailed for five years yesterday for robbing building societies of £4,750 by pretending that a cucumber in his anorak pocket was a gun.

Golden marquee

The Duke and Duchess of Devonshire will share their golden wedding anniversary next month in a marquee at Chatsworth, Derbyshire, with 1,000 other local couples who have also been married for 50 years or more.

Pole position

A flag designed by the villagers of Wreay, in Cumbria, for the village green will soon be flying at the South Pole because of the friendship of a local person with members of a Norwegian expedition to Antarctica.

Job security

Police patrolling the Thames crossing at Dartford want harnesses to stop them being blown off the 200ft bridge by gusting winds.

Rail accident

Dawn Mills, aged 32, from Southampton, was comfortable in hospital yesterday with a fractured skull believed to have been caused by the brakepipe of a train passing above her as she lay between the rails. An enquiry has begun.

Tooth tragedy

Bernard Leeming, aged 31, of Bradford, who was married with two children, died from toxaemia caused by a tooth abscess after ignoring his mother's advice to visit his dentist or doctor. Police said there would not be an inquest.

Waking hours

Magistrates have given permission for the bar at the Navigation hotel at Treharris, Mid Glamorgan, to stay open late today to allow miners to drown their sorrows at a "wake" to mourn the closure of the local pit.

Bare bones

Winds and high tides have exposed skulls and bones in a graveyard at the village of Dunwich on the Suffolk coast.

Where rugby kicks politics into touch

With the Neath by-election less than a week away, George Hill looks at the candidates and ponders the part played in Welsh politics by ancestry, by local roots — and by the great national game

SERENE confidence that the right team will win is apparent on all sides in Neath this week.

On the last lap of the struggle for mastery in the Premier Division, Neath's glorious fifteen have no serious rivals among the disheartened ranks of modern Welsh rugby. Squinting at the world through one auspicious, and one drooping, eye, the citizens of Neath hardly know whether to give precedence to pride at the performance of the local team, or despair at that of their national one.

Some of them have noticed that there is another contest going on in Neath, for the parliamentary seat left vacant by the death in January of Donald Coleman, who had been the constituency's almost imperceptible Labour MP for 26 years. As with the more serious business on the rugby field, the outcome of the poll next Thursday is seen as almost a foregone conclusion, with a majority of 20,578 to be defended by that prominent former performer on the rugby pitch, Peter Hain.

"Putney-style designer socialism has little to recommend it in south Wales," Christopher Patten, chairman of the Conservative party, said, visiting the constituency this week. "Designer socialism applies a lot of cosmetics, but you do not have to dig far to find the same old Labour party underneath. They are having one of Mr Kinnock's friends smuggled into a seat they can take for granted."

With a recession in full swing, and uncomfortable reverberations from Nigel Lawson rattling all the way from Westminster to the Welsh valleys, the Conservatives have concluded that their best hope of success lies in backing Mr Hain into the limelight.

As Mr Patten puts it, "he has a certain reputation", as the Young Liberal leader of the anti-apartheid campaign that barred the South African rugby team from Britain in 1970. It is believed that that deprivation of rugby will not be forgiven easily in the valleys. More, and perhaps worse, Mr Hain has not the slightest shred of a claim to be a Welshman.

Genealogical refinements normally loom large in by-election campaigns. In most parts of Britain, party workers probably overestimate the significance of this sector to the voters. But in Wales, it would be quite impossible to do so. Mr Hain's lack of ancestry is ironically alluded to on all sides, as are his exploits on the rugby field. But these are not necessarily held seriously against him. As a voter in Brynamman assured him recently: "If Margaret Thatcher was put up as Labour candidate here, they would still vote her in."

Deeply engrained loyalty may make the result predictable, but the voters see no reason why that should set any limitation on the fun they customarily derive from an election campaign. Grumbling about politicians, preferably to their faces, is as much a national pastime as worship of stand-off halves. Where a door-stepping candidate gets the sharpest scolding, he can be most confident that he has found a supporter.

At a tumultuous Labour rally in Pontardawe on Tuesday, Mr Hain was shouted down so insistently that he could hardly put a word in. But the fiercest shrieks came not from the Socialist Workers, who seemed to be on their best behaviour, nor from Plaid Cymru hecklers, with their loud ridicule of the candidate's attempt to speak in the Welsh language; it was life-long Labour voters complaining about filth in the streets who almost broke up the meeting.

The Conservatives may have missed a trick in failing to appreciate this. Their candidate, Richard Evans (who has an uncle living in the constituency) is an example of the output of the Tory candidates' finishing school, serving his penance in a hopeless seat so that he might one day be offered a hopeful one. He is mild, reedy in voice, tentatively trying to be downright, and is perfectly estimable but has no spark of the devil in him.

As for the rest of the eight candidates, that same tendency to dialectical fission, which fills even the tiniest Welsh village with many gaunt chapels representing rival paths to salvation, has produced a wholesale splitting of factions.

So far, Plaid Cymru seems solid behind its candidate, Dewi Evans. But there is also an independent Labour candidate, Rhys Jeffreys, whose declared policies have little in common with Labour's except for a common note of disgruntlement. John Warman, an example of that almost extinct species, the Social Democrat, is standing against David Lloyd, the Liberal Democrat, mainly on the platform of being more local than he is.

Even the loony vote will be split by the intervention of Captain Beany, of the Bean party (Barry Kirk), who is standing to raise money for charity, and is painted orange from shaven head to his toes, looking like Superman turned Hari Krishna. Screaming Lord Sutch, of the Monster Raving Loony party, is confident of success. The contest will be his thirty-first, making him the most persistent candidate in parliamentry history.

☐ General election: D.R. Coleman (Lab), 27,612; M.R.T. Howe (C), 7,034; J. Warman (SDP/All), 6,132; H. John (Pl C), 2,792. Lab maj: 20,578.

PHIL REES

On the stump: Neil Kinnock and Peter Hain, Labour's candidate at Neath, touring a factory laboratory in the constituency as the by-election campaign draws towards polling day

Study of abuse ordered

By JOHN WINDER

RESEARCH to clarify issues raised by organised child abuse is being commissioned by the health department and will be led by Professor Jean Lafontaine, of the London School of Economics.

Stephen Dorrell, junior health minister, told the Commons yesterday that the government was not attracted by the idea of a public enquiry in the wake of the Rochdale child abuse cases because the facts were known and they were not short of lessons drawn from those facts.

Jim Callaghan, Labour MP for Heywood and Royton, had called for an investigation into the extent of ritual abuse. He said that the government should consider whether films whose *raison d'être* was violence should be allowed to be made into videos.

Mr Dorrell said that if any child abuse were part of a ritual, it would be illegal, but there was no ban in criminal law on the concept of satanism. The department did not hold figures giving a clear picture of the number children involved in organised abuse, but it was only a small percentage of the total amount of child abuse.

Past humiliations haunt Labour

By RICHARD FORD, POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

WITH speculation about the prospects of an early general election, the Labour leadership is leaving nothing to chance in a by-election next week in one of its Celtic heartlands.

Past humiliations have taught Labour's hierarchy the danger of taking victory for granted in seats with normally impregnable majorities. Carmarthen in the Sixties, Ashfield in the Seventies, and Govan in the Nineties are writ large on the hearts of any Labour leader.

Neil Kinnock is determined that no such calamity should befall the party when the voters go to the polls in Neath next Thursday where Labour has a majority of 20,578. Members of the shadow cabinet have been flocking to the south Wales constituency to support Peter Hain, their candidate, amid some nervousness that Labour's vote could slip because he is an outsider in a country that traditionally has chosen its own sons to represent it.

Despite that tradition, Welsh voters have shown little xenophobia in the past. Michael Foot inherited Aneurin Bevan's Ebbw Vale seat in a by-election in 1960, Peter Thorneycroft won Monmouth in a by-election in 1945, Sir Frank Soskice, won Newport in 1956 and James Callaghan, born in Portsmouth, represented a Cardiff constituency for 38 years.

Since 1945, Wales has provided few by-election upsets although a nationalist surge in the late Sixties sent shudders through Labour and made the party much more sensitive to demands for greater devolution. Barry Jones, director of political studies at University of Wales College of Cardiff, said: "Wales is a pretty conservative country with a small 'c' and there is a big loyalty factor. The parties tend to be more sensitive to shifts of opinion than they might be in England where there is much wider divergence of opinion in constituencies."

The shocks to Labour began in 1966 when the Plaid Cymru won its first seat at Carmarthen in a by-election caused by the death of Lady Megan Lloyd George, the sitting Labour MP. They overturned a Labour majority of 9,200 to take the seat by 2,400 votes. During the next two years Harold Wilson's government was to be hit by the nationalist surge that came close to taking several Labour strongholds.

MP begs West to aid Kurds

By ROBERT MORGAN AND JOHN WINDER

DEMANDS for Western military support for the Kurds and other groups fighting President Saddam Hussein's forces in Iraq were ruled out yesterday by the government.

Mark Lennox-Boyd, a foreign office minister, told the Commons that, although the government deplored the Iraqis' use of helicopter gunships, there were no UN resolutions or mandates to deal with them.

Dale Campbell-Savours, Labour MP for Workington, said that the coalition leaders should tell Saddam to stop using aircraft and helicopter gunships or they would be shot down without further notice. Calling for Western support for the uprising, he said that the war had led to it and President Bush had encouraged it. "We cannot now wash our hands of the consequences."

He was concerned that some American leaders were in favour of suppressing the opposition and striking a deal with the Ba'ath regime headed by someone other than Saddam. "Saddam and the Iraq regime are inseparable."

Reports, page 8

£50m for Networker trains

British Rail is to invest £50 million in 65 Class 165 Networker Turbo trains for the Thames Line express service between Paddington and Oxford, Malcolm Rifkind, transport secretary, said in a written reply.

Hanging ends

Capital punishment for murder is to be abolished in five British dependent territories in the Caribbean, Douglas Hurd, foreign secretary, announced in a written reply. They are Anguilla, British Virgin Islands, Cayman Islands, Montserrat, and the Turks and Caicos Islands.

Gulf costs

The bill for equipment lost and munitions used in the Gulf conflict is about £450 million of Britain's £1.75 billion war costs, Archie Hamilton, armed forces minister, said in a written reply.

Poll tax bill

The community charges (general reductions) bill, which provides for the £140 cut in headline poll tax charges, was given Royal Assent.

Easter recess

Parliament rose for the Easter recess yesterday until April 15.

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WOOLWORTHS

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INQUEST POST MORTEM

The Hillsborough inquest ended yesterday on its 80th day with the jury's majority verdict of accidental death. The dissent of two of the 11 jurymen and the length of their retirement, including two nights in a hotel, shows how near they came to bringing in a verdict that the 95 Liverpool supporters, crushed to death at the Hillsborough stadium in Sheffield in 1989, were unlawfully killed. But to what end?

The disaster itself, for its scale and its circumstances, was one of the most vividly horrific of modern times. An incident like this is bound to carry with it such a weight of public feeling that no jury verdict could relieve it. There were understandable, predictable, but essentially misdirected protests yesterday that justice had not been done. There is clearly something wrong with the way the English legal system handles such disasters. The present basis is satisfactory to nobody, not to the injured and friends and relatives of the dead, nor to those who have been publicly accused of causing the deaths in question, nor to the wider public interest.

Given that the Director of Public Prosecution had already stated that there would be no prosecutions for manslaughter whatever the verdict, there was no need to hold this inquest — except to satisfy the law. A comprehensive enquiry under Lord Justice Taylor had already explored every avenue, commented robustly on causes and fault, and made recommendations designed to prevent such a tragedy occurring again.

An inquest to establish cause of death is one of the oldest traditions of the legal system. It is right that there should be some public investigation, with witnesses cross-examined under oath and with lay people involved in reaching conclusions. It is the one common element in an otherwise diverse and untidy range of options for investigating disasters. Different laws apply to the public investigation of air or rail accidents, leading to different kinds of statutory enquiry. In sporting disasters, no public enquiry takes place unless the government specifically orders one, as it ordered the Taylor enquiry. All such enquiries — and inquests — are distorted by the difficulty of being fair to those who might later be accused of specific offences.

Meanwhile those who have endured severe trauma enough have to relive their memories. The English would have cause to be grateful to the Lord Chancellor, Lord Mackay, a Scotsman, if he were to introduce south of the border something like the Scottish fatal accident enquiry, which would combine an English inquest with an English public enquiry, a "one-stop" system. Not only would it be kinder to relatives, but it would prevent the various enquiries either from repeating each other or from getting in each other's way. Concluding the Hillsborough inquest, the coroner, Dr Stefan Popper, said that the "entire relationship between coroner's inquests and public enquiries in major disasters" was a nettle that had to be grasped.

This is a recommendation on which the Lord Chancellor and the home secretary, Kenneth Baker, should act. Individual deaths, even multiple deaths in cases such as road accidents, may still be suitable for a coroner's inquest. But in appropriate cases, Hillsborough being an obvious one, the home secretary should have the power to combine the role of a coroner with those of the chairman of a public enquiry, so that one judicial figure presides over one public investigation of the deaths. Justice would be better served; and witnesses would be spared the anguish of repeated — and unnecessary — airings of the same horrors.

BRINKMANSHIP IN MOSCOW

Moscow may have been closer to revolution yesterday than at any time since 1917. That push did not come to shove was due to the fact that neither side wanted a violent confrontation. True, by scorning the Russian Congress of People's Deputies, President Mikhail Gorbachev was challenging its president, Boris Yeltsin, the leader of the democratic opposition. To order 50,000 troops into the centre of a capital is not a normal method of maintaining order. After Vilnius and Riga, few will believe that these "black berets" were not prepared to use force. By the grace of God, the rally passed off quietly. Mr Gorbachev can breathe again; his opponents can claim a victory.

A large majority of the Russian parliament had earlier called on Mr Gorbachev to withdraw interior ministry and KGB forces from the capital, to no avail. This resolution showed the strength of support for Mr Yeltsin, who looks strong enough to survive any parliamentary putsch. But the constitutional confrontation between the Russian Congress and the Soviet President goes to the heart of the issue of sovereignty.

President Gorbachev derives his legal authority, not from direct election by the people, but from his chosen instrument of self-legitimation, the Supreme Soviet. Ultimately, Mr Gorbachev owes his position to the Communist Party of the Soviet Union. As only the sixth general secretary since Lenin, he was able to carve out for himself a new office as head of state.

A year ago he set about investing this new office with such an aura of dignity, complete with laws against *lèse-majesté*, that there was speculation about whether he would renounce his power base in the party. That did not happen, and with good reason. Mr Gorbachev has retained the communists around him as an old-fashioned but serviceable panoply, proof against all but the most sophisticated political opponent.

In Boris Niklolayevich, however, Mikhail Sergeyevich may well have found his match. It was Mr Gorbachev's own referendum, one of his greatest political blunders, which disclosed the desire of Russians to elect Mr Yeltsin directly — an election which, though no date has yet been set for it, would give him a mandate to sweep away what is left of communist domination of public life. The declared intention of the communists in the Russian parliament is now to rid their master of this troublesome democrat.

Yet the Kremlin's show of strength, designed to intimidate the central bloc of deputies who are neither communists nor radicals, appears to have had the opposite effect. Russia today is not Germany in 1933, when the Nazis bullied a two-thirds majority into voting for a law to emasculate parliament. Mr Gorbachev could get away with using force against the Baltic states; but to deploy the army on the streets of Moscow is another matter. Defiance is now a matter of Muscovite honour.

A radical proposal to suspend the sessions of the Congress until Mr Gorbachev saw fit to obey its resolutions was rejected yesterday: wisely, for otherwise the recess might have lasted until the Greek kalends. The constitutional conflict will not be resolved until it becomes clear how far each side is prepared to push the other.

Mr Yeltsin is unlikely to be planning revolution; nor is Mr Gorbachev likely to have firm plans for a counter-revolution. Both have some supporters who advocate extreme measures. But there is a difference: Mr Yeltsin's hardliners are orators and visionaries; Mr Gorbachev's are generals and marshals of the Soviet Union.

Even if the police forces of the Soviet capital and other cities are brought under central control, it is doubtful whether the Kremlin can reverse the tide of urban discontent against the Soviet system. Rallies can be banned, parliaments can be ignored, but an unpopular government remains an unpopular government. Mr Yeltsin must be patient. His hour will come when free presidential elections are held in Russia, perhaps later this year.

CAUSE FOR LEVITY

A laboratory in Japan has claimed a startling achievement, hitherto the province of the Indian fakir. Using superconducting magnets, workers at a Tokyo institute have succeeded in levitating their director, Dr Shoji Tanaka, and holding him in perfect security half an inch above the ground.

This week's issue of *Nature* shows a picture of Dr Tanaka wearing a dark suit and smiling cheerfully as he hovers. Levitating objects of one sort or another has been a favourite party piece of physicists ever since high-power superconducting magnets were invented, but Dr Tanaka is by far the heaviest yet. Together with the circular plate upon which he stood, Dr Tanaka weighed more than 250 pounds.

Questions crowd in, not all of them entirely serious. Why only half an inch? The Indian rope trick may be just that — a trick — and the transcendental meditators, who claim to hover cross-legged, have never managed to convince the doubters that they are in the air at all. Surely science can do better than the mystics of the East. We should like to see Dr Tanaka bob up and down, perhaps in time to music, or shoot sideways with no perceptible effort.

All this may one day be possible. The development of high-temperature superconductors, as they are called, is proceeding at enormous speed. In this context, high temperature is a relative term. The magnet that supported Dr Tanaka operates at 78 degrees above absolute zero, which is almost 200 degrees Celsius below what most of us call zero. Yet the superconducting temperature, at which all electrical resistance vanishes, is steadily rising, along with the excitement of the physicists as they identify ways of applying their devices to real life.

The serious purpose behind the Japanese work was to see whether the force exerted by the magnet had sufficient stiffness — resistance to lateral as well as vertical motion — to act as a bearing. The good news is that the answer appears to be yes. This could make possible frictionless bearings for machines which could rotate indefinitely at thousands of revolutions per minute, without lubrication and without wearing out. Their first application might be on a spacecraft sent to Mars, well out of range of service engineers.

Further in the future, a wonderland beckons. Electricity transmitted along superconducting wires would save billions of pounds a year by eliminating the heat uselessly generated in today's cables. Better still, electricity could be stored up in huge subterranean coils of wire around which it would circulate endlessly until needed. This would save further billions by sparing the power companies from maintaining enough capacity to meet rare peaks in demand.

More exciting to most of us would be an electric car that worked as well as a conventional one, instead of hobbling along as milk floats do. Developments in computing, in medical diagnostics, and in a wide range of other unpredictable technologies, could be equally attractive.

But eventually a line is drawn by the laws of thermodynamics, the iron discipline of nature to which all must bow. Superconductors cannot give us something for nothing. They can give us a lot more for a lot less. That is probably why Dr Tanaka is smiling.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

1 Pennington Street, London E1 9XN. Telephone 071-782 5000

Posthumous verdict on Mgr Lefebvre

From the Superior of the Society of St Pius X

Sir, It is remarkable that you should have published such an important and lengthy obituary concerning Archbishop Lefebvre (March 26) if he was indeed "no great theologian", who carried "an aura of extremism", whose "candour bordered perilously on naivety" and who was "actually not an intellectually or morally imposing figure".

Yet, in spite of this, the article admits that this same man established "the one serious challenge to the [Second Vatican] Council's innovations". How could this be? Perhaps because it requires little more than intellectual honesty and a firm grasp of reality to acknowledge that the Roman Catholic Church has changed beyond recognition, even to such a point that, particularly in regard to its worship, all that was previously prescribed is now proscribed (with the occasional exception for nostalgia's sake).

If the policies of the Church were so hopelessly wrong in the past, there is no reason to believe that they are right now. Nevertheless the Archbishop's unflinching loyalty to all that is of perennial value in the Church merited him censure and opprobrium from the very authorities who are so anxious to be reconciled to men of all religions or none, but who are themselves incapable of addressing themselves to the legitimate concerns of those of their own communion.

The problems of the Catholic Church will not die with the Archbishop who will doubtless receive a kinder judgment from God and history than he has received in the columns of *The Times*.

Yours sincerely,
EDWARD BLACK, Superior,
The Society of Saint Pius X,
St George's House,
125 Arthur Road, SW19.
March 26.

From Mr Charles R. Stuart

Sir, Over the next few days we will be subject to a flood of sentimentality from followers of the late Archbishop Marcel Lefebvre claiming that he was, and his Society of St Pius X are, upholders of the traditional liturgy of the Catholic Church.

However the more rational Catholic will disregard this notion. From the early 1980s the Society of St Pius X has imposed the liturgical rite of 1962 on all its members. Priests who objected to this partially reformed version of the "Tridentine" Mass and Office were either subsequently expelled from the group or left.

The most famous of these renegades, the "Naughty Nine" from Oyster Bay, New York, had legal action taken against them by Lefebvre over property they occupied and were treated in such a draconian manner that Lefebvre's protestation at his own "unjust excommunication" by John Paul II in 1988 was hypocritical, to say the least.

It is surely ironic that the self-styled "traditionalist" Lefebvre should die in Holy Week, the great week of the Catholic Church, whose immemorial and exquisite liturgy instead of upholding he had helped to suppress.

Yours faithfully,
CHARLES R. STUART,
Albertine, Sandscroft Avenue,
Broadway, Worcestershire.
March 25.

From Mrs B. E. Eustace

Sir, The vilification which follows Archbishop Lefebvre, even in death, must be a reflection of the hatred and fear he roused in the neo-modernist church, which, by its own arrogant theology and *reductio ad absurdum*, has come to the disbelief that the Almighty could establish a single eternal church entrusted with the full deposit of truth.

By his fidelity and courage this "turbulent priest" wrested the priceless jewel of the Catholic Church from the modernist muggers and enabled my children, and countless more of future generations, to gain their inheritance: the true faith.

Catholics loyal to the immutable teachings of the Magisterium have every reason to hope and believe that the good God greeted Archbishop Lefebvre with the words he longed to hear: "Well done, thou good and faithful servant".

Yours faithfully,
MAEVE EUSTACE,
40 Great Road,
Hemel Hempstead, Hertfordshire.
March 28.

From Mr A. J. B. Donald

Sir, "By their fruits shall ye know them". Mgr Lefebvre's legacy to the Church he loved is a vigorous young religious order which opens chapels and priories as quickly as the apostles of "renewal" can close them, which operates probably the only over-subscribed seminaries in the West.

Already his most vociferous enemies begin to appear as yesterday's men — trapped in the past, hankering after the liberal progressive certainties of the sixties.

Yours etc.,
ALAN J. B. DONALD,
117 All Saints Street,
Old Town, Hastings, Sussex.
March 28.

Names to note in a royal context

From Dr David Stevenson

Sir, In a discussion I had recently with students on the complete failure of kingship represented by Charles I's reign, it was observed that in a very different way Charles II's reign was equally deplorable. The one brought disaster on himself by deliberately isolating himself from his subjects as a sacred icon, and by awesome political folly. The other cynically believed in the primacy of self-interest and personal gratification, with expediency topping the political agenda.

Such thoughts led on to consideration that in all probability our next monarch will be Prince Charles and to speculation as to whether he would wish to be known as King Charles III in view of these unfortunate precedents.

In Scotland in particular the connotations of Charles as a royal name are negative. Charles I is best known for anglicising and deeply unpopular religious policies; Charles II is primarily remembered for presiding over political corruption and religious persecution.

There are earlier examples of names being avoided by monarchs as they were thought ill-omened, the most obvious being John. After the notoriety of King John of England, the humiliating abdication of John (Balliol), King of Scots, and the capture of King John II of France by the English, the name became regarded as unlucky. Thus when John, Earl of Carrick, inherited the Scottish throne in 1390 he decided to be known as Robert III — though the change cannot have improved his luck much, as his reign was pretty dismal.

In view of this, should Prince Charles consider use of a different name if he ascends the throne? Being Charles Philip Arthur George, he already has a fair selection of names, without having to contemplate something entirely new.

Philip would have the advantage of associating him with his respected father. But the only previous monarch in Britain of this name was King Philip of England, better known as Philip II of Spain, consort of "Bloody" Mary. The precedent is clearly an unhappy one.

George would recall the widely admired George VI, Charles's grandfather, whose popularity might out-balance the reputations of most of his five predecessors in that royal name.

Arthur of course arouses most powerful and ancient connotations in the historical imagination. But to aspire to be a new King Arthur might be thought vainglorious — and linking the monarchy with heroic failure might be of dubious wisdom.

Perhaps an entirely new name would be better after all. As a Scot I'm tempted by King Fergus, thus conjuring up Scotland's mythical claim to the possession of the most ancient of all monarchies, generously communicated to the English when the Stuarts united the crowns in 1603. But the possibility of confusion of Fergus with "Fergie" might be a problem.

Or perhaps we should stake British claims in an integrating Europe and urge the suitability of Charlemagne. This would have the additional advantages of allowing the Prince to retain most of the name he is currently known by, and of infuriating the French.

Yours sincerely,
DAVID STEVENSON,
University of St Andrews,
Department of Scottish History,
St Salvator's College,
St Andrews, Fife.
March 26.

Just reward

From Mr Peter H. May

Sir, Awards to the armed forces for bravery in the Gulf will no doubt be made on the customary basis of giving officers orders and crosses, while other ranks make do with medals. If the prime minister honestly wishes to achieve a classless society he should, as a small first step, give immediate orders that such awards make no distinction between commissioned and non-commissioned ranks.

Yours faithfully,
PETER H. MAY,
43 Freston, Paston,
Peterborough,
Cambridgeshire.
March 25.

Bowing to terrorism

From Captain K.D. Boyd, MC (retd)

Sir, For 27 years I have been receiving a disability pension from the Paymaster General's office awarded for wounds received whilst capturing terrorists.

I have heard from that office that all reference to my rank and decoration in correspondence will cease because of security. I protest very strongly at the loss of a pleasurable reminder of my youth and at yet another example of us bowing to terrorism.

Yours faithfully,
KENNETH BOYD,
Bow Cottage, Bishop's Sutton,
Nr Alresford, Hampshire.

Evangelism on TV

From Mr Michael Alison, MP for Selby (Conservative) and Lord Orr-Ewing

Sir, Mr Shegog (March 19) says that "the Independent Television Commission is perfectly within its rights under the Broadcasting Act 1990 not to allow religious groups to recruit members via programming on Channels 3 and 4".

Mr Shegog does not seem to understand that the ITC is required to draw up its codes in accordance with a reasonable interpretation of the new Broadcasting Act. The ITC is a creature of the Act and subordinate to it. It is most certainly not "perfectly within its rights" to ignore the delicate balance of wording in the Act agreed and voted on in both Houses of Parliament.

Our concern was to have adequate but not unnecessarily restrictive safeguards against abuse. Section 6, concerning "no improper exploitation" in religious programmes, is the fruit of our long and hard labours, of which both parliament and the Home Office are justly proud. But it was never the intention to prohibit responsible evangelism — inevitably with "the cameras making a direct appeal to millions of viewers" (report, March 11).

For the ITC through its codes to prohibit Dr Billy Graham, or any other responsible evangelist, "recruiting members" to the Christian faith is truly shocking and, we believe, unlawful. It is shocking to imply that Dr Graham's evangelism on TV is "irresponsible" or an "improper exploitation" — the only grounds for forbidding it.

It is all the more shocking when the IBA's last religious survey, *Godwatching*, revealed that "the greater the importance of religion to the individual, the greater the emphasis placed on contribution to the needs of others". Christianity, in other words, is good for society! Thus it is a serious matter when the ITC, a publicly-funded body, permits sex and violence on TV but prohibits the spread of the Christian faith (the faith by law established).

Mr Shegog, of course, was the head of religious broadcasting at the IBA until recently and presumably has influenced ITC policy. He openly endorsed opposition to the changes we sought (and achieved) during the progress of the Broadcasting Bill. But those changes are now law. And the new law simply does not prevent broadcasters "actively seeking converts".

Yours faithfully,
MICHAEL ALISON,
IAN ORR-EWING,
Palace of Westminster.
March 21.

School benefits

From Mr Ian Mackenzie

Sir, One is appalled by the revelation of what Matthew Parris failed to learn at school (. . . and moreover, March 18). He lays claim to illumination on the role of Leith in Scotland's economy (a factor about whose cruciality my school left me under-informed), but he makes no reference to those twin pillars of my geographical education: the role of jute in 19th-century — or was it 18th? — Dundee; and the importance of linoleum to Kirkcaldy.

Mr Parris underestimates the ingenuity of teachers who realised that "core" subjects are not essential to life. My physics master had two ways of engaging our attention: the first was by ballistic and electric experiments which nearly cost several pupils their lives, the second by reading aloud Saki short stories. The chemistry master, perceiving that even the mating habits of molecules palled as a blackboard exercise, set up massive explosions in the backyard of the laboratories. Fettes was a boarding school in the independent sector: parents did not sue.

I learned three things at school: music (not a core subject), a love of the 19th-century novel, and the role of logic in the evolution of the species. The first two I caught from a couple of eccentrics who would not survive a national curriculum; the third from a country schoolmaster at Strichen in Aberdeenshire, who imbued the teaching of English grammar to ten-year-olds with the sense of a coherence integral to the cosmos.

Down there in the outback are teachers who may not be ideally programmed to jump to the crack of a secretary of state's whip, but the laces of whose shoes neither Kenneth Clarke nor I are worthy to untie.

Yours sincerely,
IAN MACKENZIE,
1 Glenan Gardens,
Helensburgh, Dunbartonshire.

From Mr R. E. F. Harness

Sir, Like Matthew Parris, I was a long time out of school, about 20 years, before I needed algebra. The task was to calculate the rate of interest applied to a borrowing transaction and to this day I remain pleased that I arrived at the answer well ahead of younger colleagues who were using a process of elimination from printed tables.

At about the same time Pythagoras provided the solution to the length of ladder I needed to reach the top of my house. My German proved most useful when I served in BAOR during conscription but it was many a long year before I used French in earnest.

In truth, apart from sport at which I was quite good, I believe that most of what I learned at school has been of benefit at some time or other. Two things stand out; the first is the ability to think logically which is nurtured by most disciplines and deriving therefrom the ability to draw a logical conclusion from a set of circumstances — not necessarily correct but logical. Secondly, knowing where to look for information.

In my view, knowledge, like reconnaissance, is never wasted.

Yours faithfully,
R. E. F. HARNESS,
7a Woldholme Avenue,
Driffield,
North Humberside.
March 18.

Saving our ships

From Mr Jack Beatson

Sir, Lord Sterling (March 13) advocates a number of fiscal and other measures which are designed to halt the decline of the British merchant fleet and to maintain support for the maritime and related activities in the City of London.

This week the English and Scottish Law Commissions have made a number of substantial recommendations relating to reform of the law concerning bills of lading, sea waybills and electronic data interchange which, taken as a whole, represent a considerable modernisation of the law relating to carriage of goods by sea. These recommendations have broad support from cargo and shipping interests.

At a time when London's position as the maritime capital of the world is being actively challenged, the implementation of these proposals would constitute an important component in helping to sustain the City of London's position and invisible earnings by ensuring that our law continues to service these activities efficiently.

Yours faithfully,
JACK BEATSON,
Law Commission,
Conquest House, 37/38 John Street,
Theobalds Road, WC1.
March 22.

War graves

From Mr R. V. Taylor

Sir, Your report on the looting of Isandlwana war graves (March 25) mentions the 1,329 "British servicemen" killed by Zulus in 1879. We should remember that of that number, 471 were Africans of the Natal Native Contingent, for the most part hastily levied, ill-trained and ill-equipped, and wrongly positioned at the vital angle facing the "chest" of the Zulu impi. Also among the dead were Basuto horsemen of great courage. Zulu losses appear to have been anything up to 3,000.

Yours sincerely,
R. V. TAYLOR,
14 Waxes Close,
Abingdon,
Oxfordshire.
March 25.

Clarion call?

From Brigadier H. L. Hartley

Sir, I was delighted to receive two enclosures in the same junk mail envelope from the Automobile Association. One read "Now you can put the worry of funeral expenses firmly behind you"; the other "Wake up to the luxury of this radio alarm clock with built-in bedside phone".

Farewell to trumpets!

Yours faithfully,
H. L. HARTLEY,
14 Macaulay Buildings,
Widcombe Hill,
Bath, Avon.

Letters to the editor should carry a daytime telephone number. They may be sent to a fax number — (071 782 5046).

A la mode

From Mrs Muriel Ryle

Sir, Liz Smith, your fashion editor, reports from Paris (Design, March 19):

Mr Lagerfeld long ago removed all ladylike pretensions from the classic Chanel suit. For 1992 the Chanel jacket comes in glitter stretch tweed worn over a fish-net body stocking with frayed denim skirt jangling with chains and pearls, plus rainbow feather boa and a jaunty baseball cap. "Who says you can't wear motorbike boots with chiffon or sequins with tweed?" he says. "Those rules don't exist any more."

The Alice-in-Wonderland madness which has seized the world's top designers is utterly exasperating to all those fashion-conscious women who are looking not to shock or amuse others, but to give pleasure to themselves, with easy-to-wear elegance which makes the best of their appearance.

Yours sincerely,
MURIEL RYLE,
22 Birchfield Gardens,
Low Fell,
Gateshead,
Tyne and Wear.
March 21.

Wellington toast

From Mr G. T. C. Musgrave

Sir, I do not wish to argue with Mr Hickey's letter (March 27) dealing with the Irishness of Arthur Wellesley, but I cannot miss the opportunity of reminding you and your readers that his peninsular army are said to have drunk with particular alacrity on March 18: "To the two greatest Irishmen of all time, St Patrick and his Grace the Duke of Wellington".

Yours etc.,
GAVIN MUSGRAVE,
43 Pall Mall, SW1.
March 27.

Drinking dilemma

From Mr S. J. Johnson

Sir, You report (March 27) a scheme to develop packaging that talks. The next time I am enjoying a glass of whisky and I hear a voice saying "don't drink me", do I heed the advice because it's the bottle talking, or reject it for the same reason?

Yours sincerely,
S. J. JOHNSON,
Wilton House,
The Nab, Nab Lane,
Mirfield, West Yorkshire.

COURT CIRCULAR

BUCKINGHAM PALACE
March 28: The Queen and The Duke of Edinburgh this morning attended the Maundy Service in Westminster Abbey at which Her Majesty distributed the Royal Maundy.

Her Majesty and His Royal Highness were received by the Dean of Westminster (The Very Rev Michael Mayne).

The Bishop of St Albans (the Right Reverend John Taylor, Lord High Almoner) and the Rev Canon Anthony Caesar (Sub-Almoner) were present.

The Queen's Body Guard of the Yeomen of the Guard were on duty.

The Duchess of Grafton, Mr Robin Janvrin and Wing Commander David Walker, RAF, were in attendance.

The Duchess of York, President of the Anastasia Trust, this morning visited two Registered Care Homes for the deaf in Wandsworth, London, set up by the Harding Housing Association in conjunction with the Supra Regional Deaf Unit.

Her Royal Highness visited Ian Collie House and 6 Huguenot Place, London SW18 and was received by the Mayor of Wandsworth (Mrs J. L. Sedgwick).

Captain Alexander Baillie-Hamilton was in attendance.

KENSINGTON PALACE
March 28: The Prince of Wales, Colonel-in-Chief, 2nd King Edward VII's Own Goorkhas (the Sirmoor Rifles), visited the 1st Battalion on Salisbury Plain, Wiltshire.

Colonel John Winter was in attendance.

The Princess of Wales attended a luncheon organised by Capital Radio to launch its "Help a London Child" Appeal at the Café Royal, London W1.

Mrs James Lonsdale and Squadron Leader David Barton, RAF, were in attendance.

Birthdays today

Lord Justice Beldam, 66; Mr Richard Rodney Bennett, composer, 55; the Earl of Bessborough, 78; Mr S.W. Cheveley, agricultural consultant, 91; Mr Charles Elton, ecologist, 91; Mr Maurice Farquharson, former Secretary to the Governors of the BBC, 92; the Marquess of Hertford, 61; Miss Margaret Howard, broadcaster, 53; Mr Jack Jones, CH, trades unionist, 78; Mrs Sheila Kitzinger, author, anthropologist and child birth educator, 62; Sir Arthur Knight, former chairman, Courtaulds, 74; Miss Sylvia Law, town planner, 60.

Mr John Major, MP, 48; Mr Hugh Neill, Lord Lieutenant of South Yorkshire, 70; Sir John Paul, former Governor-General of The Bahamas, 75; Sir John Read, former chairman, TSB Group, 73; Miss Fiona Reynolds, assistant director (policy), Council for the Protection of Rural England, 33; Lord Ross, 64; Miss Anne Stoddart, diplomat, 54; Mr Norman Tebbit, CH, MP, 60; Sir John Vane, pharmacologist, 64.

Weavers' Company

The Princess Royal presented the Weavers' Company's textile prize scheme awards at Vintners' Hall on March 26. The Upper Bailiff, Mr N.F. Townsend, welcomed the Princess Royal and the prize-winners were introduced by the chairman of the textile committee, Mr L. St J. Tibbitts.

Among the awards presented were the young weaver of the year award to Iain Taylor; technology awards to the University of Manchester Institute of Science & Technology and Winchester School of Art; the Weavers' Company medal and prize to Mr Malcolm Stirk; a silver medal for narrow fabrics to Mr Martin Lees and design awards to the Royal Society of Arts, Royal College of Art, the New Designers Exhibition and Texprint.

After the presentation the Princess Royal, prize-winners and representatives of textile organisations joined members of the company for a reception and luncheon.

Luncheon

National Sporting Club
Mr Bob Willis, Chairman of the National Sporting Club, was host yesterday at a luncheon held at the Café Royal as part of the celebrations to mark the club's centenary. Mrs Virginia Leng was the guest speaker.

Forthcoming marriages

Mr P.E.Fletcher and Miss H.D. I'Ons
The engagement is announced between Paul, only son of Mr and Mrs H.E. Fletcher, of Pine Ridge, Sundridge, and Helen, youngest daughter of the late Mr R. I'Ons and of Mrs R.D. I'Ons, of Carlyle House, Cambridge.

Mr N.R. Fridge and Dr J.L. Try
The engagement is announced between Neville Fridge, of Hampstead, son of Mr A.R. Fridge, of Carmel Valley, California, and Mrs B.M. Fridge, of Edenbridge, Kent, and Jacqueline Try, of Islington, only daughter of Mr and Mrs H.W. Try, of Gerrards Cross, Buckinghamshire.

Mr P.W. Gritton and Miss H.S. Needham
The engagement is announced between Peter, son of Mr and Mrs Robin Gritton, of Reigate, Surrey, and Harriet, elder daughter of Mr and Mrs Frank Needham, of Barnes, London.

Mr K.D. Stone and Miss K.M. Forbes Adam
The engagement is announced between Kristan David, second son of Mr Stanley Stone and of Mrs Violet Stone, of Forest Hill, London, and Kate Mary, second daughter of Revd Timothy Forbes Adam, of Tadmarton, Oxfordshire, and Mrs Penelope Forbes Adam, of London, W14.

Mr C.W. Ware and Miss S.A.R. Yeadon
The marriage of Mr Charles Waddington Ware to Miss Sally Anne Ruth Yeadon will take place tomorrow at St Mary's, Primrose Hill.

Anniversaries

BIRTHS: John Tyler, 10th president of the USA 1841-45, Charles City County, Virginia, 1790; Edward George Stanley, 14th Earl of Derby prime minister 1852, 1858-59, 1866-68, Knowsley Park, Lancashire, 1799; Sir Edwin Lutyens, architect, London, 1869.

DEATHS: Thomas Coram, philanthropist, London, 1751; Emmanuel Swedenborg, philosopher, London, 1772; Charles Wesley, hymn writer, London, 1788; Maria Fitzherbert, morganatic wife of George IV, Brighton, 1837; John Jacob Astor, fur trader and financier, New York, 1848; John Keble, the theologian, Bournemouth, 1886; Georges Seurat, painter, 1891; Sir Charles Stanford, composer, London, 1924; Carl Orff, composer, Munich, 1982.

The Royal Albert Hall was opened by Queen Victoria, 1871.

OBITUARIES

EILEEN JOYCE

Eileen Joyce, CMG, concert pianist, died on March 25 aged 78. She was born in Tasmania on November 21, 1912.

BECAUSE in mid-career she opted for an emphasis on personal popularity, Eileen Joyce's undoubted musicality and virtuosity were for a while overlooked. She was a player of extraordinary skill, at home in Mozart as in Shostakovich and encompassing Chopin, Liszt, Grieg and Rachmaninov along the way, as her many excellent records, recently reissued, reveal. These capabilities had been on display before the war, during which her good looks and charm, allied to her pianistic flair, brought her playing to the attention of a much broader section of the public than generally listened to classical music at that time. At this period she revelled in playing three concertos in a programme, often appearing in a different dress for each. Their glamour attracted some comment at a time when it was unexpected, but she said: "Changing fills in the intervals when I might be biting my nails with nervousness. Would the critics prefer that I should wear black?" She played the piano for Ann Todd in the film *The Seventh Veil* and made a film of an autobiographical nature called *Wherever She Goes.*

Joyce was born of immigrant parents of Spanish and Irish descent. Her mother told her she was born in a tent; her father was a labourer and she was called "Ragged Eilie". They were terribly poor and she first played falteringly on a beer-stained piano from a local pub that was trundled round to her father's house. She was educated at a convent school sitting in the back row reserved for the non-paying pupils. She became well known in Boulder City for her playing and money was collected so that she could go to a larger convent school at Perth.

Her talents were spotted first by the composer Percy Grainger and then by the pianist Backhaus who was touring Australia. They urged that she be sent abroad to study. Grainger was helpful in raising funds so that she could go to the conservatoire in Leipzig. Her teachers there were Max Pauer and the fearfully strict Robert Teichmuller who was responsible for giving her a magnificent technique. After three years at Leipzig she moved to London and continued her studies with Tobias Matthay and Adelina de Lara. Finally she went to work with Schnabel in Berlin.

With such a comprehensive training she astonished the conductor Albert Coates at an audition in 1930. He recommended her to Sir Henry Wood with whom she made a sensational debut that year, playing a Prokofiev concerto. She quickly established an appreciable reputation in recitals and concertos and began a long series of recordings for Parlophone. Her repertoire eventually consisted of more than 70 works, some of which, such as the John Ireland Concerto, were written especially for her.

After her war-time fame she resumed a fairly normal concert career touring all over the world. She could be outspoken publicly, once complaining, in 1957, that there was not one grand piano available for public recitals in three county towns — Winchester, Exeter and Gloucester, home of the Three Choirs Festival. At a musical competition in Geneva she walked out on her fellow judges, complaining of outside influences being brought to bear on the jury. At the Proms in 1958 she gave the first performance in England of Shostakovich's piano concerto, Opus 101.

Her career was hard work. Some of her strong stubby fingers were in 1958 taped to prevent cuts and others had corns. Her hands became weary, her back strained and Harley Street became a second home. Towards the end she was spending more on doctors' bills than she was earning on the concert platform.

In the early 1960s she retired precipitately although in 1967 she was persuaded to reappear to play Rachmaninov's Second Concerto, one of her greatest successes, once more. She was made an honorary Doctor of Music at Cambridge in 1970 and appointed CMG in 1981. Her retirement was spent in Kent, near Chartwell, where she would often entertain friends with her playing.

She was married twice and had a son by her first husband.

RALPH BATES

Ralph Bates, television actor, died of cancer in a London hospital on March 27 aged 51. He was born on February 12, 1940.

RALPH Bates will be associated in audiences' minds with two main television roles, that of George Warleggan, the villainous adversary of the protagonist in BBC 1's *Poldark* and, more recently, as the lovable loser in romance John Lacey in the popular series *Dear John.* The roles could scarcely have been more different. In 29 episodes of *Poldark* Bates was not allowed to smile even once, being under instructions to preserve an icily hostile demeanour throughout.

But he had a gift for comedy, and after a stint in a Ray Cooney farce, the protagonist of *Dear John* was a part which he found highly congenial. With a brand of good looks which could be disarming as well as fiercely formidable (he had been an excellent Hammer horror villain in his younger days) Bates imparted to the role of John Lacey an attractive vulnerability, creating a character who was always destined to be on the losing side in romance and marriage, a man who could be guaranteed to push on doors marked "pull". John Lacey, who in the series joined a singles club after his wife ran off with a physical education teacher, gave Bates a new lease of popularity in a vein which could not have been predicted for the snarling villain of *Poldark* a few years before.

Ralph Bates was born in Bristol. On his mother's side he was descended from Louis Pasteur and at one time held dual nationality — a fact which had its conveniences as well as disadvantages. He retained a love for France and spoke the language fluently, but he also narrowly escaped being called up into the French army.

He read French at Trinity College, Dublin, and after winning a scholarship to Yale Drama School, returned to Ireland to make his stage debut at the Gate Theatre, Dublin, in 1963, in Shaw's *You Never Can Tell.* He went on to a career in rep and in the West End, gaining experience in plays ranging from classics like *Hedda Gabler* through to, more recently, comedies such as *Run For Your Wife.* An effective performance as the murderously insane Roman emperor Caligula in one of the episodes of Granada's series *The Caesars* pointed the way to a profitable period in Hammer horror films in the 1970s, and Bates developed a chilling persona for himself in films such as *The Horror of Frankenstein* and *Lust for a Vampire* (both 1970), *Dr Jekyll and Sister Hyde* (1971) in which he played an evil doctor who inadvertently transforms himself into a seductive brunette, and *Fear in the Night* (1973). He also starred in one of ITV's *Crime of Passion* series in 1972, playing opposite Cyd Hayman in, appropriately, a French murder story, Miss Hayman being the lucky murderess who gets away with shooting her lover, played by Bates, in a *crime passionel.*

It was a natural progression from such roles to *Poldark,* where his dark, stormy George Warleggan made Bates one of television's heart-throbs in the 1970s. In fact he seemed doomed to be type-cast as a screen rogue — if one of undeniable sexual attraction — but the translation in the mid-1980s to the vulnerable anti-hero of *Dear John,* with his drab hair-cut, down-trodden features and the perpetually defeated slouch in his shoulders, indicated a versatility which had much more to give to television drama, had his life not been tragically cut short. Bates certainly had the capacity to inhabit roles with which a mass audience could identify.

His first marriage, to the actress Joanna van Gyseghem, ended in divorce and he married secondly, Virginia Wetherall, herself formerly an actress. She survives him with their two children Daisy, known to television audiences for her role in *Forever Green,* and William, who played his screen son in *Dear John.*

JOHN D. VOELKER

John D. Voelker, an American judge who wrote novels under the name of Robert Traver, died at Marquette, Michigan, on March 19 aged 87. He was born on June 29, 1903.

JOHN D. Voelker never put his experiences as a prosecutor, defence lawyer and finally as a justice of the Michigan Supreme Court to better use than he did in writing his novel *Anatomy of a Murder* which was published under the name of Robert Traver in 1958. A story of the defence of a murder suspect in court in a backwoods small town, it was made, in 1959, into a film directed by Otto Preminger and starring James Stewart, Ben Gazzara and Lee Remick, as well as George C. Scott in his first notable role, as the public prosecutor. This was a star line-up which could hardly help gaining the widest publicity for Traver's novel, even given that it had already topped *The New York Times* best-seller list.

Nevertheless, good though the film was, the Traver novel would have stood on its own without the powerful advocacy of the cinema. This had much to do with the fact that the story was based on an actual case which Voelker had defended in Michigan, in which a man was accused of shooting someone who had raped his wife. Voelker/Traver's story followed the facts closely. In it a small-town lawyer successfully defends an army officer accused of murdering a bartender who has assaulted his wife. Not every lawyer could necessarily have turned this into a good novel and Voelker's taut plotting, fine writing and the sheer intelligence of the thing were what gave it its compelling quality.

John Donaldson Voelker was born in Ishpeming on Michigan's Upper Peninsula. His years as Marquette County Court prosecutor from 1935 to 1950 provided him with a rich vein of experience which he mined when he decided to turn novelist. He started writing in the 1940s with more or less autobiographical works such as *Troubleshooter: the Story of a Northwoods Prosecutor* (1943) and *Small Town DA* (1954). Another of his interests was fishing which he turned to good account in *Anatomy of a Fisherman* (1964) and a novel *Laughing Whitefish* (1965).

Voelker was a justice of the Michigan Supreme Court from 1957 to 1960. He continued to write in retirement. Characteristic among his novels was *Hornstein's Boy* (1962) a story of in-fighting in a Senate campaign in a mid-Western state, while such works as *Trout Magic* (1974) pursued his interest in angling.

He leaves his widow, Grace, and three daughters.

Burning mystery of Halley's comet

By MICHAEL J. HENDRIE
ASTRONOMY CORRESPONDENT

MERCURY sets nearly two hours after the Sun early in the month but the 1st-magnitude planet closes rapidly with the Sun, being at inferior conjunction on the 14th. It then becomes a morning star but rises less than an hour before sunrise throughout April and May.

Venus is a brilliant -4.0 magnitude evening star moving quickly eastwards through Taurus and setting four hours after the Sun by the 30th. Crescent Moon near by on the 17th.

Mars is also an evening star fading from 1.0 to 1.3 magnitude as it moves eastwards through Gemini. It sets by 01h on the 30th. First quarter Moon near by on the 19th/20th.

Jupiter is to the west of the Praesepe star cluster in Cancer, fading from -2.3 to -2.1 magnitude during the month and setting before 02h by the end of the month. Notice how Venus and Mars are closing up on Jupiter: all three planets will be close together in June. Moon close to the south on the 21st.

Saturn is on the borders of Capricornus and Sagittarius and 0.7 magnitude and rises as Jupiter sets in late April. Moon near by on the 8th/9th.

Uranus rises by 01h by the 30th. The 5.8 magnitude planet is in Sagittarius. It is stationary on the 18th. Moon close to the south on the morning of the 7th.

Neptune rises about the same time as Uranus throughout the summer and being 8 magnitude always requires optical aid. It is stationary on the 18th. Moon near by on the 7th.

The Moon: last quarter, 7d 07h; new Moon, 14d 20h; first quarter, 21d 13h; full Moon, 28d 21h.

The waning, gibbous Moon passes in front of the bright (1.2 magnitude) red star Antares in the constellation Scorpius on the morning of the 4th. The star will disappear at the Moon's bright easterly edge (the "limb") soon after 02h and reappear about an hour later at the dark or westerly limb.

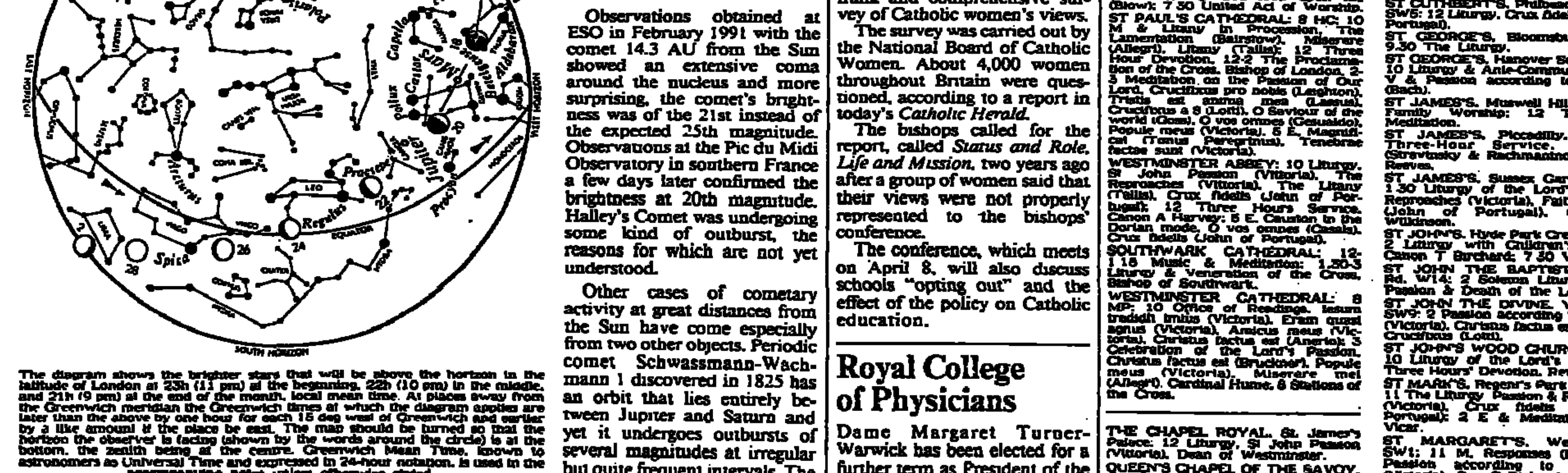
Sunset on the 1st is at 18h 35m and on the 30th at 19h 25m while sunrise is at 05h 35m and 04h 30m on the same dates. Astronomical Twilight ends at 20h 30m and 21h 55m early and late in the month and begins at 03h 40m and 02h 00m.

Halley's Comet was at its closest to the Sun, 0.59 Astronomical Units, in February 1986 and has since been increasing its distance from the Sun and Earth (an AU is the average distance of the Earth from the Sun, that is 150 million kms or 93 million miles). It has been observed at every opposition since, especially by astronomers at the European Southern Observatory (ESO) at La Silla in the Chilean Andes. The comet's head was between 1st and 2nd magnitude at its brightest though the extensive tail made it much more conspicuous than this would suggest. The head of a comet generally fades as a comet moves farther from the Sun and tails are usually very weak or absent long before most comets reach the distance of Jupiter (5.2 AU).

By February 1990 Halley's Comet was beyond the orbit of Saturn and 11.6 AU from the Sun. Comets are generally thought of as being inactive at these distances where solar heating is negligible. However the comet showed a dust cloud or "coma".

Observations obtained at ESO in February 1991 with the comet 14.3 AU from the Sun showed an extensive coma around the nucleus and more surprising, the comet's brightness was of the 21st instead of the expected 25th magnitude. Observations at the Pic du Midi Observatory in southern France a few days later confirmed the brightness at 20th magnitude. Halley's Comet was undergoing some kind of outburst, the reasons for which are not yet understood.

Other cases of cometary activity at great distances from the Sun have come especially from two other objects. Periodic comet Schwassmann-Wachmann 1 discovered in 1825 has an orbit that lies entirely between Jupiter and Saturn and yet it undergoes outbursts of several magnitudes at irregular but quite frequent intervals. The asteriod 2060 Chiron, discovered in 1977, lies in an orbit taking it from just inside that of Saturn to near Uranus (from 8.5 to 18.9 AU from the Sun). In recent years this minor planet has been found to have a comet-like coma which varies in brightness and extent. Whereas the recent visit of Halley's comet to the vicinity of the Sun might perhaps have triggered the activity now being seen five years later, neither of the other two objects has had a close encounter with the Sun in recent times. Halley's comet will not be closer to the Sun than it now is for the next 65 years, returning to perihelion in the year 2061. This will make further study difficult.



The diagram shows the brighter stars that will be above the horizon in the latitude of London at 23h (11 pm) at the beginning, 22h (10 pm) in the middle, and 21h (9 pm) at the end of the month, local mean time. At places away from the Greenwich meridian the Greenwich times at which the diagram applies are later than the above by one hour for each 15 deg west of Greenwich and earlier by a like amount if the place be east. The map should be turned so that the horizon the observer is facing (shown by the words around the circle) is at the bottom, the zenith being at the centre. Greenwich Mean Time, known to astronomers as Universal Time and expressed in 24-hour notation, is used in the accompanying notes unless otherwise stated.

Women's report for bishops

THE place of women in church life is to be discussed by the Roman Catholic bishops of England and Wales (Ruth Gledhill writes). The bishops have been presented with a report of what is believed to be a frank and comprehensive survey of Catholic women's views.

The survey was carried out by the National Board of Catholic Women. About 4,000 women throughout Britain were questioned, according to a report in today's *Catholic Herald.*

The bishops called for the report, called *Status and Role, Life and Mission,* two years ago after a group of women said that their views were not properly represented to the bishops' conference.

The conference, which meets on April 8, will also discuss schools "opting out" and the effect of the policy on Catholic education.

Royal College of Physicians

Dame Margaret Turner-Warwick has been elected for a further term as President of the Royal College of Physicians of London.

Tapping history

An iron age settlement has been unearthed at a Yorkshire Dales water improvement plant. Workmen discovered the remains of six homes, thought to have belonged to the Brigantes tribe, at Buckden reservoir, near Kettlewell.

999th sheriff

Lieutenant-Colonel George Edward Vere-Laurie, who has served in the 9th/12th Royal Lancers, has been sworn in as the 999th High Sheriff of Nottinghamshire.

Services for Good Friday

CANTERBURY CATHEDRAL: 9.30 Liturgy of the Cross. Responses (Sarum), The Lamentation (Bairstow), Litany (Loosemore), Faithful Cross (John of Portugal), Passion (Victoria), Reproaches (Victoria); 12 Three Hours Devotion, Rev S Platten; 6.30 E. Crucifixus (Lotti), Responses (Sarum), Tenebrae factae sunt (Poulenc).

YORK MINSTER: 10 M and Ante-Communion. The Lamentation (Bairstow), Benedictus (Moore), In manus tuas (Tallis), Kyrie (Leighton), St John Passion (Victoria); 12 Three Hours Devotion; 4 E. Faux bourdons (Gibbons), My God look upon me (Blow); 7.30 United Act of Worship.

ST PAUL'S CATHEDRAL: 8 HC; 10 M & Litany in Procession, The Lamentation (Bairstow), Miserere (Allegri), Litany (Tallis); 12 Three Hour Devotion; 12-2 The Proclamation of the Cross, Bishop of London, 2-3 Meditation on the Passion of Our Lord, Crucifixus pro nobis (Leighton), Tristis est anima mea (Lassus), Crucifixus a 8 (Lotti), O Saviour of the world (Goss), O vos omnes (Gesualdo), Popule meus (Victoria); 5 E. Magnificat (Tonus Peregrinus), Tenebrae factae sunt (Victoria).

WESTMINSTER ABBEY: 10 Liturgy, St John Passion (Vittoria), The Reproaches (Vittoria), The Litany (Tallis), Crux fidelis (John of Portugal); 12 Three Hours Service, Canon A Harvey; 5 E. Canticles in the Dorian mode, O vos omnes (Casals), Crux fidelis (John of Portugal).

SOUTHWARK CATHEDRAL: 12-1.15 Music & Meditation; 1.30-3 Liturgy & Veneration of the Cross, Bishop of Southwark.

WESTMINSTER CATHEDRAL: 8 MP; 10 Office of Readings, Iesum tradidit impius (Victoria), Eram quasi agnus (Victoria), Amicus meus (Victoria), Christus factus est (Anerio); 3 Celebration of the Lord's Passion, Christus factus est (Bruckner), Popule meus (Victoria), Miserere mei (Allegri), Cardinal Hume; 8 Stations of the Cross.

THE CHAPEL ROYAL, St James's Palace: 12 Liturgy, St John Passion (Vittoria), Dean of Westminster.

QUEEN'S CHAPEL OF THE SAVOY, WC2: 11 M, Lamentations (Bairstow), Ave verum (Mozart), Rev J Robson; 12 One Hour's Devotion.

GUARDS CHAPEL, Wellington Barracks, SW1: 10 M; 11 Good Friday Service.

TEMPLE CHURCH, Fleet Street, EC4: 11.15 MP and Ante-Communion, Responses (Thalben-Ball), Walford Davies in G, Darke in F. The Master.

CHAPEL ROYAL, Hampton Court Palace: 11 Ante-Communion & The Passion, Messe Basse (Fauré).

ALL HALLOWS BY THE TOWER: 12 1.30 Liturgy & HC, Canon S Van Culin & Canon P Delaney.

ALL SAINTS, Margaret Street, W1: 10 Solemn Liturgy, Reproaches (Palestrina), Crucifixus (Lotti), The Vicar; 12 Three Hour Devotion, Right Rev A M Stockwood.

ALL SOULS, Langham Place, W1: 10 Family Service, Rev I Bentley; 12 Three-Hour Service of Meditation, Preb R Bewes.

GROSVENOR CHAPEL, South Audley Street: 10.30 MP & Litany; 12 The Three Hours, The way of the Cross; 1.15 Solemn Liturgy of the Passion & Death of the Lord, Passion according to St John (Plainsong), Reproaches (Victoria), Crux fidelis (John of Portugal), Crucifixus (Lotti).

HOLY TRINITY, Prince Consort Road, SW7: 12 Three-Hour Service, Rev Dr M Israel.

ST ALBAN'S, Brooke St, EC1: 12 Stations; 1.15 Liturgy, Preb J Gaskell.

ST BARTHOLOMEW THE GREAT, Smithfield, EC1: 11.30 Distribution of the Butterworth Charity; 12 Litany and Ante Communion, Lamentation (Bairstow), Litany (Tallis), Adoramus Te (Ruffo), Christus factus est (Anerio), Crux fidelis (John of Portugal); 7 St John Passion (Bach).

ST BRIDE'S, Fleet Street, EC4: 11.30 Stabat Mater; 12 Three Hours Before the Cross, Canon J Oates.

ST CUTHBERT'S, Philbeach Gardens SW5: 12 Liturgy, Crux fidelis (John of Portugal).

ST GEORGE'S, Bloomsbury, WC1: 9.30 The Liturgy.

ST GEORGE'S, Hanover Square, W1: 10 Liturgy & Ante-Communion; 2.30 V & Passion according to St John (Bach).

ST JAMES'S, Muswell Hill, N10: 10 Family Worship; 12 Three-Hour Meditation.

ST JAMES'S, Piccadilly, W1: 12 Three-Hour Service, Anthems (Stravinsky & Rachmaninov), Rev D Reeves.

ST JAMES'S, Sussex Gardens, W2: 1.30 Liturgy of the Lord's Passion, Reproaches (Victoria), Faithful Cross (John of Portugal), Canon J Wilkinson.

ST JOHN'S, Hyde Park Crescent, W2: 2 Liturgy with Children's Church, Canon T Birchard; 7.30 V.

ST JOHN THE BAPTIST, Holland Rd, W14: 2 Solemn Liturgy of the Passion & Death of the Lord.

ST JOHN THE DIVINE, Vassall Rd, SW9: 2 Passion according to St John (Victoria), Christus factus est (Anerio), Crucifixus (Lotti).

ST JOHN'S WOOD CHURCH, NW8: 10 Liturgy of the Lord's Death; 12 Three Hours' Devotion, Rev J Cullen.

ST MARK'S, Regent's Park Rd, NW1: 11 The Liturgy Passion & Reproaches (Victoria), Crux fidelis (John of Portugal); 2 E & Meditations, The Vicar.

ST MARGARET'S, Westminster, SW1: 11 M, Responses (Plainsong), Passion according to St John (Victoria), Rev C Richardson.

ST MARTIN-IN-THE-FIELDS, WC2: 10 M; 12 Three Hours' Devotion.

ST MARY'S, Bourne Street, SW1: 12 Preaching of the Passion, Canon P Pilkinson; 2 Liturgy of Christ's Passion, Passion according to St John (Victoria), Crux fidelis (John of Portugal), Civitas sancti (Byrd).

ST MICHAEL'S, Chester Square, SW1: 12 Three-Hour Service.

ST PAUL'S, Wilton Place, SW1: 12-2 Preaching of the Cross; 2-3 Liturgy of the Passion, The Passion Gospel (Byrd), Reproaches (Victoria), Crux fidelis (John of Portugal), Ven T Raphael.

ST PETER'S, Eaton Square, SW1: 11 Liturgy of the Day, St John Passion (Ridgley-Whitehouse), Improperia (Palestrina), Crux fidelis (John of Portugal).

ST STEPHEN'S, Gloucester Road, SW7: 11 Stations of the Cross; 2-3 Preaching of the Passion, Fr A Sidolph; 3 Liturgy of the Passion, Passion Gospel (Schutz), Popule meus (Victoria), Christus factus est (Bruckner).

ST VEDAST, Foster Lane, EC2: 12 The Liturgy.

ST COLUMBA'S CHURCH OF SCOTLAND, Pont Street, SW1: 11 Rev W A Cairns.

CROWN COURT CHURCH OF SCOTLAND, Covent Garden, WC2: 11.15 Good Friday Service.

THE ASSUMPTION, Warwick Street, W1: 3 Popule Meus (Vittoria), Jesum tradidit impius (Vittoria).

THE ORATORY, Brompton Road, SW7: 10 Tenebrae, Responeries (Victoria); 12 Stations of the Cross; 3 Passion Liturgy, Reproaches (Victoria), Ne irascaris (Byrd); 6.30 Stations of the Cross.

ST ETHELDREDA'S, Ely Place: 3 Solemn Liturgy, Christus factus est (Vigorniensis), Passion responses (Victoria), Popule meus (Victoria), O vos omnes (Victoria), Adoramus te (Palestrina), Peccantem me (Morales), In manus tuas (Wilton).

ST MARY'S, Cadogan Street, SW3: 3 In Monte Oliveti (Ingegneri), Passion Chorale (Hassler/Bach), Improperia (Plainchant).

OUR LADY OF VICTORIES, Kensington High Street, W8: 3 Solemn Liturgy of the Passion, O vos omnes (Victoria), Popule meus (Palestrina).

HINDE STREET METHODIST CHURCH, W1: 12 Good Friday Meditation.

KENSINGTON TEMPLE, (Charismatic), Notting Hill Gate, W11: 10 Communion; 7 Birgitta & Swante in Concert.

KENSINGTON URC, Allen Street, W8: 11 Rev P Lovett.

REGENT SQUARE URC (Presbyterian-Congregational), Tavistock Place, WC1: 10 Rev Dr R Scopes.

ST ANNE AND ST AGNES (Lutheran), Gresham St, EC2: 11 Liturgy, Seven Last Words of Christ.

WESTMINSTER CENTRAL HALL (Methodist), SW1: 11 Meditation, Father Forgive, Rev Dr R J Tudor.

WESTMINSTER CHAPEL, Buckingham Gate, SW1: 11 Rev Dr R T Kendall.

Church news

Appointments

The Rev Brian Anderson, Team Vicar, Saltash: to be *also* Rural Dean of East Wivelshire (Truro).

The Rev Richard Aspden: to be Assistant Curate, Redruth with Lanner and Treleigh (Truro).

The Rev Stephen W Burnes, Curate, Becontree South and Deanery Youth Chaplain (Chelmsford): to be Team Vicar in the Worth team (Chichester).

The Rev Norman Boakes, Vicar, Colbury: to be Vicar, Maybush (Winchester).

The Rev Peter Burtin, Assistant Curate, Heston, St Leonard, to be Priest-in-Charge, All Saints, Campbell Road, Twickenham (London).

The Rev Jeremy Cobb: to be Team Vicar, Redruth with Lanner and Treleigh (Truro).

The Rev Christopher C Dalliston, Chaplain to the Bishop of Chelmsford: to be Vicar, Forest Gate, St Edmund (Chelmsford).

The Rev Philip I Dennison, Assistant Curate, Heswall St Peter (Chester): to be Team Vicar Bushbury team, with special responsibility for St James, Fordhouses (Lichfield).

The Rev Duncan Ferguson, Public Preacher: to be *also* rural Dean of Trigg Major (Truro).

The Rev Dorothy M Green, Parish Deacon, All Saints, Ryde, Isle of Wight, (Portsmouth): to be Honorary Curate, Hempnall team (Norwich).

The Rev Ernest J Green, Vicar, All Saints, Ryde, Isle of Wight (Portsmouth): to be Team Rector, Hempnall team (Norwich).

هكذا من الاصل

NAULT CLIO
E YEAR 1991.

Saddam's forces press Kurds while Shia rebels say they have retaken southern holy city

Iraq claims victory in fierce battle for Kirkuk

FROM MICHAEL THEODOULOU IN NICOSIA AND MARTIN FLETCHER IN WASHINGTON

PRESIDENT Saddam Hussein's forces launched a merciless air, artillery and missile assault on Kirkuk yesterday, opposition sources said, and tens of thousands of Iraqi troops regrouped for a ground offensive to recapture the key northern oil city from rebel hands.

Last night Baghdad claimed that its forces had already retaken Kirkuk. Baghdad radio said Saddam's troops were in complete control of the important oil city. In the south, however, Shia rebels claimed they had recaptured the holy city of Karbala in a bloody and costly battle with

Saddam: accused of using phosphorous bombs

government ground forces supported by MiG 23 fighter jets. If true, rebel gains in southern Iraq would help the Kurds by forcing Saddam to retain more troops there. Karbala had been in government hands since the beginning of the month.

Kurdish guerrillas were said to be rapidly reinforcing their positions in and around Kirkuk after the city came under the heaviest bombardment since they captured it last week. Sukhoi bombers, Mig fighters and helicopter gunships flew several sorties as government forces pounded Kirkuk with long-range artillery, rockets and surface-to-surface missiles, according to Latif Rashid, a spokesman in London for the Iraqi Kurdish Front.

The bombing was indiscriminate, and hundreds of civilians were being killed, the Kurdish Democratic Party said, claiming that government ground forces were already involved in the offensive.

In Washington yesterday, the Pentagon confirmed that Iraqi forces loyal to Saddam had mounted a big assault to recapture Kirkuk. A spokesman said Baghdad's forces were using tanks, heavy artillery, helicopter gunships and, it was thought, multiple rocket launchers in the assault. Significant damage had been inflicted on the city within the first few hours of fighting.

The spokesman added that the administration had heard many reports of Iraqi forces using chemical weapons to suppress the uprisings in the north and the south of the country, some of them from refugees, some through the media, but had been unable to confirm them. The administration has threatened to resume bombing raids on Iraq were Saddam to use chemical weapons.

The White House also said it could not confirm the reports, but it did disclose that, on at least one occasion last week, Saddam's forces had used phosphorous bombs against Kurdish rebels in northern Iraq. Phosphorous bombs are designed to cause fires which cannot be extinguished with water and can therefore have devastating effects on civilian populations.

There was still no sign of the administration being prepared to intervene. The United Nations mandate was to liberate Kuwait. "Once that mandate is secured through a ceasefire, our troops will be withdrawing," a White House spokesman said.

The Pentagon was unable to confirm reports that Saddam's forces had retaken the northern city of Mosul. However Iraqi forces were taking "fierce reprisals against anyone suspected of aiding insurgents, even against doctors and hospital personnel who have treated those suspected of being in opposition to the Iraqi government."

Syrian radio said rebels in Basra captured a brigadier-general in command of Iraq's Fifth Division and several of his senior officers. Iranian radio claimed that Shia rebel ranks in the south were being boosted by defections from Saddam's Republican Guard.

Kurdish rebels said earlier yesterday that as many as 200,000 government troops and Iranian dissidents were regrouping near Saddam's hometown of Takrit, 90 miles north of Baghdad in preparation for a ground offensive on Kirkuk, a city Saddam desperately wants to retake. Were he to do so, it would be more than a propaganda victory. The Kirkuk oil fields produce more than a third of Iraq's oil and by holding onto them the Kurds could reduce Saddam's ability to wage a long civil war.

While the Kurds have little oil refining capacity intact, they can prevent the flow of crude oil to government areas where some refineries survived allied bombing, according to Ian Seymour, a veteran oil analyst based in Nicosia.

With Kirkuk under threat, it was doubtful Kurdish guerrillas would try to capture Mosul, Iraq's third largest city and Saddam's last stronghold in the north. They said on Wednesday they were advancing on the city where they planned to establish a provisional coalition government. Mr Rashid said a large force of Kurdish guerrillas, militiamen and freshly armed civilians ringed Mosul city and were urging the people and Saddam's forces within to join their ranks.

Western correspondents in Kurdistan denied a claim by Baghdad that the northern town of Dohuk had been recaptured or, as the Iraqi News agency, put it: "Dohuk has been purged and life has returned to normal there after the symbols of agentry, crime, and treachery tried to rape it".

Saddam's long-promised moves towards democratic reform and freedom of speech began with an unprecedented press attack on his government, which was accused of black marketeering. Iraqis could not afford to buy basic foodstuffs because of a burgeoning black market sponsored by the government, wrote veteran columnist, Mohammed al-Jazaeiri, in the ruling Baath newspaper *Al-Thawra*.

"Products distributed by the government are turning up on the black market for ten times more than the official price under the eyes and ears, if not the collaboration of the protectors," Mr Jazaeiri said. "Let us say with a loud voice 'Lift the internal blockade before you ask the United Nations to lift the international embargo'."

Saddam's enemies dismissed the article as an attempt to focus attention "on a small matter in order to detract it from the real crisis the country is facing". One said Saddam was preparing to make scapegoats of some Baath party members accused of black marketeering in order to take the edge of popular discontent at food shortages.

● DAMASCUS: Iraqi opposition groups called on Arab League foreign ministers who meet in Cairo on Saturday to recognise their movement and to urge Saddam's government to step down. The Iraqi Action Joint National Committee sent a letter to the Arab ministers saying the Saddam government could not represent Iraqi people. *(Reuter)*

Ring of confidence: Kurdish rebels and supporters in buoyant mood yesterday in Zakho, northern Iraq, as the guerrillas celebrated their successes against Baghdad's forces

Shamir offers to talk on his terms

FROM PAUL ADAMS IN JERUSALEM

YITZHAK Shamir, the Israeli prime minister, has tentatively extended his hand to any Palestinians willing to negotiate — on Israel's terms. The offer comes against the backdrop of some of the worst rioting in the occupied Gaza Strip since the Gulf war began.

A boy, aged 14, was shot dead and almost 50 people were injured during clashes in Rafah, a town and refugee camp, triggered by news of the death of another Palestinian, shot by security forces on Wednesday. Meanwhile, an Israeli man, aged 70, was stabbed in Jerusalem.

In a *Jerusalem Post* interview, Mr Shamir said he would meet Palestinians who accepted the framework of the May 1989 Israeli peace initiative. The plan calls for limited autonomy during an interim period, but rules out Palestinian self-determination and negotiation with the Palestine Liberation Organisation.

Mr Shamir appeared to retreat from his recent attack on the ten Palestinians who met James Baker, the American Secretary of State, in Jerusalem this month. "I have nothing against them personally," Mr Shamir told the *Jerusalem Post*. "The question is their views, their opinions, their convictions. They have to accept our framework."

Violence of Kuwait militias curbed

Kuwait City — Several junior members of Kuwait's ruling al-Sabah family have been told by the crown prince they will be punished if they continue encouraging their personal militias to seize and beat Palestinians (Jamie Dettmer writes).

The warning comes only days after Sheikh Saad al-Sabah ordered the army to dismantle its permanent checkpoints in the city centre and to hand over to the civil authorities the job of policing the area.

There has already been a marked reduction in tension in several Palestinian districts. Last night Palestinians in the district of Hawally said there had been no arrests by Kuwaiti soldiers or by military irregulars for more than 24 hours. The restoration of electricity to Hawally two days ago has also helped to dampen Palestinian unrest in a district which was close to boiling point.

However, in Firwaniyah on the outskirts of the city half a dozen Palestinians were arrested by state security officers accompanied by Kuwaiti soldiers. Unlike most of the thousands of arrests since liberation, those in Firwaniyah last night were not done at random. State security officers consulted a list and went directly to the houses of people they wanted.

The crackdown on six junior al-Sabah members, including the son of the foreign minister, was greeted with relief by Western envoys yesterday. For weeks, Western diplomats had been expressing their concern about what many observers here see as the persecution of Palestinians.

White House fires off a warning to the general

FROM PETER STOTHARD, US EDITOR, IN WASHINGTON

THE White House has told General Norman Schwarzkopf to watch his language "or his words will get him into trouble". The message was relayed to America's national war hero after an outspoken television interview, broadcast on Wednesday night, in which he said that President Bush had overruled his wish to "annihilate" the Iraqi army in Kuwait.

Mr Bush yesterday attempted to damp down the dispute over the ceasefire decision by revealing that he had telephoned General Schwarzkopf after the interview to reassure him of his "hundred per cent support". But administration sources said the caution was "serious" and only the most recent of several since the war ended.

According to his deputy press spokesman, the president told General Schwarzkopf yesterday morning that there were "no problems between then and that he should not worry". But, in the words of another aide, "General Schwarzkopf is too naive about the press and politics to take so much media exposure".

The Desert Storm commander's claim to David Frost that, if he had had his way Saddam Hussein would not now have had the forces with which he is brutally suppressing dissent, has struck a raw nerve.

As the columnist William Safire wrote in *The New York Times* yesterday: "The premature ceasefire, intended to save Iraqi soldiers' lives, threatens to cost hundreds of thousands of Iraqi civilian lives. US troops in Iraq should not be forced to stand idly by as anti-Saddam forces are slaughtered by tanks and gunships."

The president's staff remain comfortable that the ceasefire decision was the best that could have been made at the time. There was only so much carnage of Iraqi troops that people could have and should have accepted, an official said.

The difficulty for the administration is that the deaths have already happened. They are seen as part of a successful war in which, as General Schwarzkopf said in his interview, maximum enemy casualties are the corollary of minimum American losses. The deaths of Iraqi civilians, on the other hand, are part of the messy peace in which all is still to play for.

Sununu: opposed to the Middle East peace tour

The chief anxiety in the White House is that the postwar mayhem should not tarnish the gleaming war-image of the president. The administration does not want an extended debate over whether the ceasefire was called too late or too early. President Bush said on Wednesday that he was happy to accept the judgement of historians — by which he meant that he would be happier not to have his generals claiming their space in the history books just now.

Administration sources were torn yesterday between playing down the debate and doing down General Schwarzkopf. White House advisers are also hoping to persuade Mr Bush to distance himself for a while from the Middle East peace process. Preliminary moves are underway for a peace conference jointly sponsored by the United States and the Soviet Union but many obstacles are still ahead. The President's powerful chief of staff, John Sununu, is actively agitating against the Middle East peace tour, planned for the end of April.

Mr Bush is thought to be still keen to make the trip and to risk some of his political capital in order to keep up the momentum of victory. But the arguments for doing so may be weakening.

● TUNIS: Reports from within the Palestine Liberation Organisation leadership say that a deal with the United States now in the final stages of completion could signal the renewal of dialogue with Washington. But Western diplomats say they are treating such stories with caution (Penelope Gibbins writes).

Health disaster

Kuwait City — The environmental catastrophe in Kuwait is comparable in scope to the Chernobyl disaster, and though confined to Kuwait and neighbouring states will have long-term effects on human health and safety, experts from the United Nations and the World Health Organisation said here. *(AFP)*

Palestine hope

Paris — Jacques Poos, the foreign minister of Luxembourg and president of the European Community, said that he saw a Jordanian-Palestinian federation as the best way to solve the Palestinian question, because it had a better chance of being accepted by Israel. *(Reuter)*

Arab optimism

Algiers — Muhammad Hassan Faki, the Saudi ambassador to Iraq, has said he believes that within three months the Arab world, including Iraq, would have patched up its differences over the Gulf war. He told the daily paper *Le Soir d'Algérie* that there was no question of isolating Iraq. *(Reuter)*

Relief flight

Amman — A plane carrying 28 tonnes of medicine, milk and high-energy biscuits, paid for by the European Community, landed at an airport near Baghdad. The supplies would be taken to western Iraq by lorry, the Paris-based Médecins sans Frontières group said. *(Reuter)*

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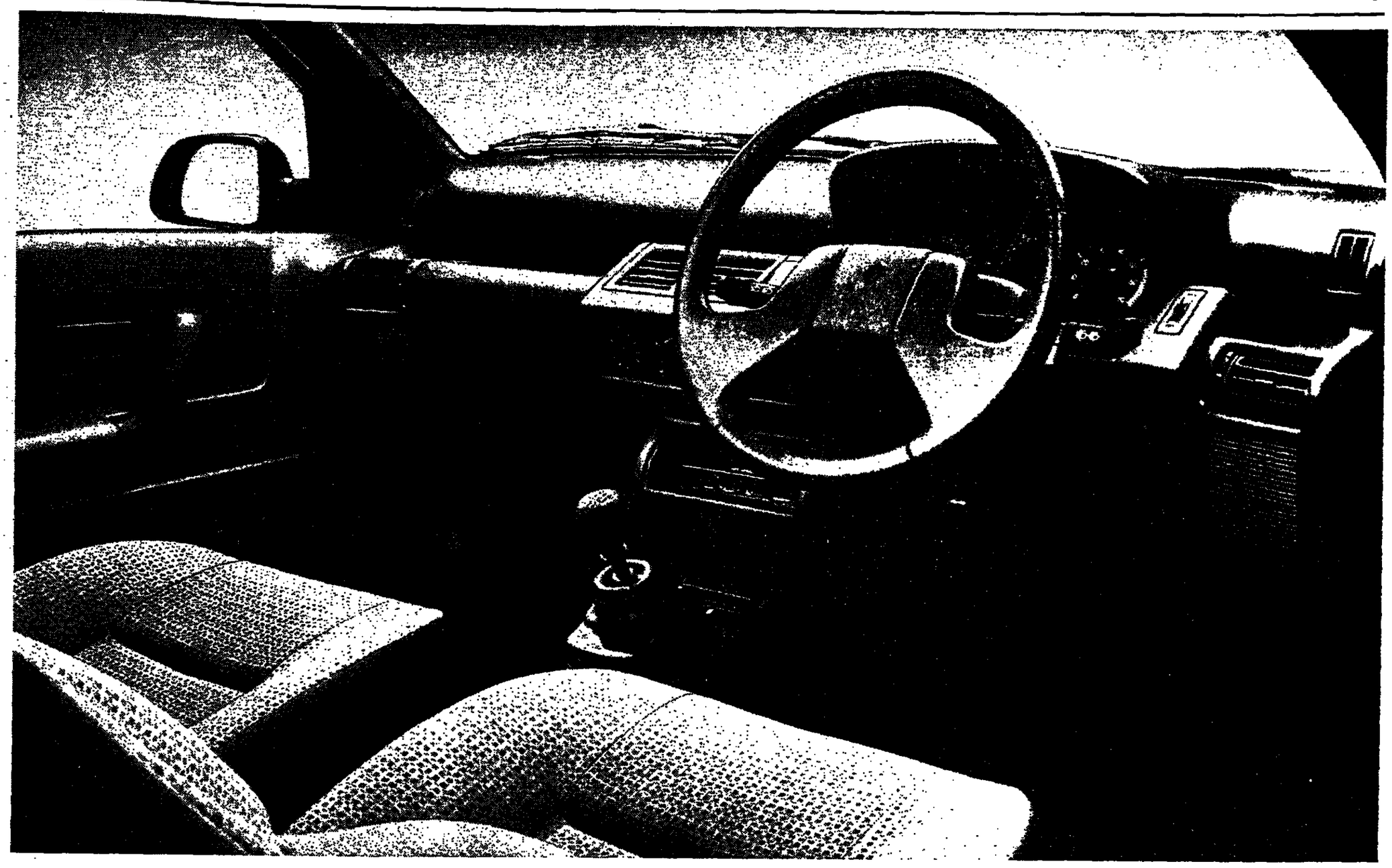

THE NEW RENAULT CLIO

CAR OF THE YEAR 1991

It took a small car to pick up this year's big prize. The new Renault Clio beat all-comers of all sizes to be voted Car of the Year 1991. What were the judges thinking of? Perhaps it was a case of mistaken identity. After all, from the inside it's very easy to mistake the Renault Clio RT, for example, for a car twice its size. Certainly nothing else in this class has a combination of sunroof, electric front windows, a six-speaker stereo radio-cassette, sports-style seats, front fog lamps, and rev counter, all fitted as standard.

Nor does any other car in this class have as much interior space as the Renault Clio.

Then again, judges are only human, and easily swayed by the promise of expensive luxuries at no extra cost. Who could resist the lure of fingertip satellite controls for the stereo, and remote control central locking, fitted as standard?

And who can blame them if they were taken for a ride? Thanks to its long wheelbase – the longest in its class, in fact – the Renault Clio is exceptionally easy to handle, with a pleasantly smooth ride.

The judges certainly needn't feel uncomfortable with their decision. Because, like all Renaults, the Clio has a quiet, well-upholstered interior, and is thoughtfully designed for everyone's comfort, even on the longest journey. Even pedestrians can feel more comfortable, as every Clio has a catalytic converter fitted as standard, to reduce polluting exhaust emissions. They also have fuel injection, and an automatic choke.

As we all know, power can turn anyone's head, and the Clio engines produce the highest power output in their class. The engine in both the Clio RL and RN (which are available in 3- and 5-door versions) is an all-new 1.2 litre 60 bhp 'Energy' engine, which returns 62.8 mpg at a constant 56 mph. The 1.4 engine in the Clio RT (3- and 5-door) is also an 'Energy' engine. It produces 80bhp and is available with the option of a 4-speed electronic automatic gearbox. There will soon be a 1.8 engine for the Clio RT, producing 95 bhp, in a 5-door version, and a 3-door version of the Clio RL with a refined 1.9 diesel engine. Having decided to name the Renault Clio as Car of the Year 1991, the judges still kept their options open. The option to choose electrically heated and operated door mirrors, power-assisted steering and alloy wheels.

And the option to choose from a range starting from as little as £7,190* (excluding on-the-road costs) for the Clio RL 3-door, to £8,980† (excluding on-the-road costs) for the Clio RT 1.4 5-door.

Clearly, the Renault Clio won the Car of the Year award entirely on its merits. Judge for yourself at your local Renault showroom.

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Black Democrat governor poised to challenge Bush

From MARTIN FLETCHER IN WASHINGTON

DOUG Wilder of Virginia, America's first elected black governor and the grandson of slaves, has become the most prominent Democrat yet to declare publicly his interest in challenging President Bush in 1992, filing documents with the Federal Election Commission to form a Wilder for President exploratory committee.

Mr Wilder's ambition has been apparent since his gubernatorial victory 15 months ago, notwithstanding a hint of scandal last year when he was found to have used the state helicopter to visit Patricia Kluge, a wealthy Virginian divorcee. He has exploited his celebrity by criss-crossing the country preaching his "new mainstream" values of social conscience and a stern fiscal conservatism. In Virginia he has refused to raise taxes to tackle a $2 billion (£1.15 billion) deficit, preferring deep cuts in education and other services. He has upheld the death sentence.

Mr Wilder, aged 60, is considered unlikely to win his party's nomination, let alone defeat a popular incumbent president, but his candidacy could marginalise the relatively extreme Jesse Jackson, the black standard-bearer in the past two presidential elections, while enhancing his chances of being the vice-presidential candidate.

Until now only two complete outsiders — George McGovern, the man trounced by Richard Nixon in 1972, and Paul Tsongas, a former senator from Massachusetts — had said they might run. The Iowa caucus is only ten

Wilder: declaring interest in presidential contest

months away and the election 20, but leading Democrats have been deterred by Mr Bush's 90 per cent postwar approval ratings.

Those who have considered running include Senators Lloyd Bentsen of Texas, Al Gore of Tennessee, Sam Nunn of Georgia, Bill Bradley of New Jersey and Robert Kerrey of Nebraska, Richard Gephardt, the House majority leader, and Governors Mario Cuomo of New York and Bill Clinton of Arkansas.

Some damaged their prospects by opposing the war with Iraq. Mr Nunn, who led Democratic demands for sanctions to be given more time, has virtually ruled himself out. Mr Cuomo handed the Republicans a grenade with the pin out when he suggested that "you could negotiate something that gets (the Iraqis) out of Kuwait for the most part, leaves them maybe a little bit of the water ... a little bit of the oil".

Mr Bradley did the same by saying "Congress should authorise no expenditures for an enlarged offensive option to invade Kuwait or Iraq". Mr Gephardt also threatened to cut off funding for American troops if the president failed to seek congressional authorisation for their use, but has not ruled himself out.

Mr Bentsen and Mr Gore appear likely candidates. Mr Bentsen, aged 70, has stature and a distinguished second world war record to neutralise his vote for sanctions. He shone as Mr Dukakis's running mate in 1988. As chairman of the Senate finance committee he would not lack for big donors, and he is too old to wait for 1996.

Mr Gore barely conceals his ambition and, said his spokeswoman, is "thinking very seriously" about the race. He was one of ten Democratic senators who voted for the use of force. Mr Kerrey is a personable first-term senator whose anti-war vote would be balanced by the fact he lost part of his leg in Vietnam.

Though Mr Bush's re-election looks almost certain, the Democrats hope attention will revert to pressing domestic problems. The dilemma for hopefuls like Mr Gore and Mr Gephardt, both candidates in 1988, is whether to hold their fire for 1996, or use a 1992 candidacy to position themselves for 1996 but risk the stamp of perennial losers.

Zulus spread fear in township

From GAVIN BELL IN ALEXANDRA TOWNSHIP JOHANNESBURG

LILLIAN received a gift from her neighbours last week. It was a blade from a pair of garden shears, honed to razor sharpness and fastened to an iron bar. At night she puts it by her pillow in her one-room shack in Alexandra township, a primitive and only vaguely reassuring defence against the armed bands terrorising her community.

Lillian, a Sotho from the QwaQwa tribal homeland in the Orange Free State, migrated to this sprawling shanty town on the east side of Johannesburg several years ago to work as a domestic servant.

She has no particular sympathy for the African National Congress, and if multiracial elections were held tomorrow she would vote for President de Klerk's National Party. But, as a Sotho separated from her husband, she lives in constant fear of marauding Zulus, which is why she will not give her family name.

"In the beginning it was the Zulus attacking the Xhosa-speaking people, now they attack every other (tribal) nation. They don't fight straight. Say you're coming home from work alone, they see you and then there are five or six of them beating you. Or they come at night with guns, always in a crowd, against families who have no weapons."

Lillian is at a loss to explain the aggression of Zulus from Natal, members of the Inkatha Freedom Party who, she says, have begun infiltrating areas around their strongholds in migrant workers' hostels. "I've never spoken to a Zulu, I'm too afraid. But people say they don't want to be ruled by Xhosas. It looks like Inkatha against ANC, but the ANC is not fighting anybody like Inkatha is doing now."

Although neutral in the conflict, Lillian shares ANC suspicions of police collusion with Inkatha militants. "There are police around, but they never help. They search our houses and shacks for weapons, but how can they not see the Zulus going around at night with guns? I think they are standing by Inkatha."

Whether or not such suspicions are justified, hers is a view shared by her neighbours, Sothos, Swazis, Shangaans and Xhosas, none of whom has party political affiliations.

Ironically, the only solution she perceives is a form of apartheid. "We mustn't be mixed. Separation can take place between the Zulus and other nations. If they stay, there will only be more trouble. The families whose people have been killed by the Zulus would like revenge, so I don't think the fighting will stop."

Chief Mangosuthu Buthelezi, the Inkatha leader, admitted yesterday that his peace talks in January with Nelson Mandela, the ANC deputy president, had failed to curb the violence. "We are not succeeding and, of course, we had better come up with other solutions," he said in a letter to a Johannesburg newspaper.

Bridge building, page 30

Free again: Nompumelelo Falati, aged 18, left, one of Winnie Mandela's co-accused, cried when the judge yesterday rejected the case against her. Her mother, Xoliswa, right in this recent photograph, remains on trial

Magistrate tells of Kashmir rapes

From CHRISTOPHER THOMAS IN DELHI

EVEN by the brutal standards of Indian security forces in Kashmir, the terror that was visited on a remote, snowbound village called Kunan Poshpora on the night of February 23 is unprecedented.

A confidential letter written to the state government by a magistrate, S. M. Yasin, dated March 7, reveals something of the horror. "I feel ashamed to put in black and white what kind of atrocities, and their magnitude, were brought to my notice," he said.

A hundred human rights activists marched to the presidential palace in Delhi yesterday to hand in a letter of protest, which accused the army and the Kashmir government of covering up multiple gang rapes. "If this is allowed to succeed, then we cannot call ourselves a civilised society," it said.

Accounts of the terror have been verified by Mufti Bahaud-din Faroqi, the former chief justice of Kashmir. The precise number of victims is not clear because so many have tried to conceal that they were raped, such is the stigma of the violation, especially among rural Muslims. But the figure is more than 30.

Mr Yasin's description of events corresponds with independent accounts emanating from the area. He said that soldiers entered the village at 11pm, took all the men from their homes and locked them in a house for the night.

The magistrate visited the village on March 5. "It was found that the armed forces had turned violent and behaved like beasts. Villagers produced empty wine bottles and I was told that the atrocities were committed after consuming wine. I found that the villagers were harassed to the extreme."

He said that the men were released the following morning as the troops left. "When they entered their houses they were shocked to see that the armed forces had gang-raped their daughters, wives and sisters. One of the girls gang-raped had given birth only four days earlier."

The state authorities, who say they have banned night searches in the Kashmir valley to prevent rapes and other atrocities, this week denied any wrongdoing in Kunan Poshpora. It said the allegations "cannot be believed", and claimed that villagers had invented the stories under pressure from militant Kashmiri separatists to "malign the security forces". It based its conclusions on a report submitted by two senior officers from the security forces. No independent enquiry has been ordered.

● **Gandhi attacked:** Rajiv Gandhi, the Congress (I) party leader, was attacked in the state of Bihar as he campaigned yesterday for the general election due in May.

Party officials said his convoy was besieged by a chanting mob at a village where he was visiting Harijans (untouchables) who had been beaten up by men hired by politicians and landlords.

Mulroney rejects Quebec deadline

From JOHN BEST IN OTTAWA

THE province of Quebec has given the rest of Canada 18 months to come up with proposals to stop its secession. But Brian Mulroney, the federal prime minister, refuses to accept the ultimatum.

The report of a commission on the political and constitutional future of Quebec was tabled in the provincial legislature in Quebec City on Wednesday. It calls for a referendum on sovereignty in the French-speaking province of 6.5 million people by October 26, 1992, unless the rest of the country offers a plan of renewed federalism.

Opinion polls have repeatedly shown that the majority of the people of Quebec are in favour of declaring sovereignty. If that option were to be carried in a referendum vote, Quebec would become independent one year later.

In Ottawa, Mr Mulroney quickly rejected the implied ultimatum from Quebec. He told the House of Commons, in response to opposition questions: "This is a sovereign parliament of a great and sovereign nation, and this parliament shall establish the time frames and not the legislature or political party of any province."

The Quebec commission was set up by the legislature last year after a plan for healing a long-standing constitutional rift between Quebec and the nine English-speaking provinces collapsed when two of the English provinces refused to ratify it.

The 36 members of the commission include Robert Bourassa, the Liberal premier, Jacques Parizeau, the head of the official opposition, the separatist Parti Québecois, and other leading provincial and federal politicians.

MiGs in Peking signal accord

From CATHERINE SAMPSON IN PEKING

WHEN Soviet-made MiGs wheeled and dived over Peking's military airport last week, their flight seemed a symbol of an increasingly close friendship, not a precursor of the invasion the Chinese feared for decades. Diplomats even speculate that the Chinese might buy the fighters from their old enemy.

The Soviet air show was the first such event held in China, and security was tight at Nanyuan, the military airport south of Peking. No third-country diplomats or observers were invited: this was a private tryst between two countries who have become unusually friendly since the end of the Gulf war.

This month Chinese and Soviet officials and delegations have been plying the route between Moscow and Peking with unaccustomed frequency. Diplomats suggest that the near-frenzy of dialogue is a reflection of the two countries trying to find a foothold in the postwar world. But in the short term they have a more practical concern: the general secretary of China's Communist Party, Jiang Zemin, is to visit Moscow in May and many diplomats expect his trip to set the seal on the warmer relations which have emerged since the unhappy visit of Li Peng, the prime minister, last year.

Kurile islands deal looms large in Soviet rhetoric over borders

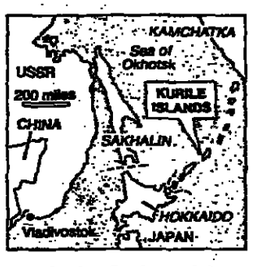
From MARY DEJEVSKY IN MOSCOW AND JOANNA PITMAN IN TOKYO

THE Soviet foreign minister, Aleksandr Bessmertnykh, arrives in Tokyo today for a three-day visit during which he will meet Toshiki Kaifu, the Japanese prime minister, and his Japanese counterpart, Taro Nakayama. The visit comes two days after one of Japan's most powerful politicians, Ichiro Ozawa, secretary-general of the ruling Liberal Democratic party, left Moscow after almost three hours of talks with President Gorbachev.

For two nations still technically at war, the recent flurry of high-level exchanges has been significant. They are expected to peak next month with Mr Gorbachev's visit to Japan on April 16, the first by a Soviet leader. Heading his agenda will be the territorial quarrel over the Kurile islands, north of Japan, which the Soviet Union has occupied since 1945 but which Japan claims. The dispute, which Tokyo calls the "northern territories problem", has prevented the two nations from signing a peace treaty after the second world war.

In recent days Soviet officials have started to talk defensively about their borders, condemning the slightest hint that there could be room for change. At a regular briefing this week, Vitali Ignatenko, President Gorbachev's spokesman, chose to align himself fully with a foreign ministry statement which dealt with remarks on the Soviet border by a US State Department official.

The foreign ministry quoted the American official as saying that Washington recognised the Soviet borders of 1933 — which would leave outside the Soviet Union the three Baltic republics, most of Moldavia, and the four Kurile islands.



The Soviet foreign ministry said: "This statement is tantamount to an attempt to reconsider the borders of the Soviet Union." It described the American suggestion as "counter to international law and totally absurd".

Soviet leaders have always been sensitive to the border question and made recognition of their existing postwar borders a condition of the 1975 Helsinki agreement. But American sources in Moscow maintain that the United States' position has been entirely consistent.

It is unclear whether Soviet sensitivity about the border is a response to intensified pressure from Japan, or whether it is preparing its people for the possibility of a deal. Japan is hinting at playing its trump card to win back the islands, making it clear to Moscow that large-scale investment will begin once the Soviet side recognises Japanese sovereignty over the islands.

Satsuki Eda, the leader of the Progressive United Social Democratic party, who sits on the "special northern islands problem committee" in the Diet, the Japanese parliament, says that government and business circles have prepared and shown the Soviet leadership a wide-ranging plan to support Soviet economic development.

"It is a precise strategy that details Japanese enterprises constructing specific facilities such as roads, railways or oil wells over the next decade or two. The total investment could amount to as much as $30 billion (£17 billion)."

If redefinition of the border were involved in such a deal, the arguments for stating — in advance and with absolute clarity — that this was an exception and not the rule would be all the more compelling. A single weakening in the Soviet Union's border defences would be pounced on by at least nine of the Soviet Union's 15 republics as a reason why their own particular grievance should be reexamined to their satisfaction.

The border problems with China, while partly solved three years ago by a little-noticed Soviet concession on the definition of river boundaries, are still under discussion. Moreover, Eduard Shevardnadze, the former foreign minister, has recently been pilloried by the hardline party press for allegedly conceding part of the Bering Sea to the United States "without the scrutiny of parliament".

Inside the Soviet Union, there is a latent border dispute between Belorussia and Lithuania. There are regional demarcation disputes in Moldavia, which is splitting along ethnic lines, and a whole series of separate conflicts in the Caucasus, several of which have resulted in fighting. Georgia is trying to enforce its jurisdiction over the region of South Ossetia; Armenia and Azerbaijan are fighting over the administration of Nagorno-Karabakh; and the Azerbaijani region of Nakhichevan is looking longingly towards Iran.

In Central Asia, recent conflicts have centred on the Fergana valley, where three republics — Kirghizia, Uzbekistan and Tajikistan — have at times been in violent contention for land and water rights.

The violence in the Caucasus and the risk of losing the Baltic region have encouraged President Gorbachev to state adamantly in the past that he will not countenance the redrawing of borders, inside or outside the country. Ceding territory so soon after letting go of Eastern Europe would represent a political risk and damage what remains of a battered national pride.

The delicacy of the judgment involved in the Kurile islands question is probably the chief cause of Moscow's smarting defence of its borders.

Leading article, page 13

Up in smoke: a column of thick black smoke billowing over Moscow yesterday morning as the roof and several storeys of the American embassy were engulfed by flames. One marine guard was treated for smoke inhalation but no other injuries were reported. There appeared to considerable damage to the top floor, which in most big embassies would house sophisticated radio equipment (Bruce Clark writes). A Soviet fire chief, whose men arrived with shabby and, in some cases, punctured hosepipes, said that there appeared to have been a short circuit in a lift shaft.

Andreotti ready to resign under Socialist pressure

From PAUL BOMPARD IN ROME

GIULIO Andreotti is expected to resign as Italian prime minister today, following demands for a new, reformist government from the Socialists, the second largest party in the five-party coalition.

In the senate this afternoon Signor Andreotti, a Christian Democrat, will report on a meeting yesterday of government party leaders and will then present his resignation. The next step will be inter-party negotiations, with the guidance of President Cossiga, for the formation of a new cabinet. But early elections are a distinct possibility. The next general elections are due in June 1992.

After yesterday's meeting Bettino Craxi, the Socialist leader, said: "We have repeated our preoccupations over the state of political and institutional malaise."

In their demand for a new government the Socialists have an ally in President Cossiga, a Christian Democrat, who last weekend openly denounced the Italian political establishment in general and this government in particular. He said that if Signor Andreotti's government was unable to make important financial and institutional reforms then an early vote would be the right course.

All the government allies — Christian Democrats, Socialists, Republicans, Liberals and Social Democrats — said they wanted to create a new government without early elections. But it is widely believed that an early vote would benefit the Socialists.

For the past week Signor Craxi and other Socialist leaders have called for a government that will make radical changes in the Italian political system, and have suggested the direct election of the president, as in the French system.

Although they only have 14 per cent of the seats in parliament the Socialists have been essential partners in most of Italy's postwar governments.

Yesterday Signor Andreotti said: "There is the will to continue collaboration between the five parties, but through a fresh discussion of the structure and the programme for the year that separates us from the end of the legislature."

Trial faces former Stasi members

From IAN MURRAY IN BONN

FIVE former members of the East German Stasi secret police are being held for trial on charges of attempted murder and causing an explosion, the state prosecutor's office in Karlsruhe confirmed yesterday. They include Gerhard Neiber, the last deputy minister for state security.

All five are alleged to have had links with the Red Army Faction until 1984, helping the left-wing extremists to train and carry out attacks. But a statute of limitations means that, as more than five years has elapsed since the five worked with the faction, they cannot be charged with supporting a terrorist group.

Erich Mielke, head of the Stasi and minister for state security, is alleged to have ordered his officers to train and work with the Red Army Faction. He is being held for trial on charges of fraud, embezzlement and human rights abuse.

Britain reproved over Dalai Lama visit

Peking — The Chinese foreign ministry yesterday summoned Sir Alan Donald, the British ambassador, to hear a "serious representation on the arrangement by the British side for meetings of the Lord Chancellor and other officials with the Dalai Lama" during his recent visit to London (Catherine Sampson writes).

The protest came less than a week before Douglas Hurd, the foreign secretary, arrives here for talks on bilateral relations and Hong Kong, but diplomats believe the protest will not seriously affect the success of his visit.

An official told Sir Alan that the British government "in disregard of the solemn position of the Chinese government, insisted on arranging meetings of the Lord Chancellor and other officials with the Dalai Lama". He said Britain had "permitted the Dalai Lama to engage publicly in political activities attacking the Chinese government".

● **List presented:** American congressmen who are visiting Peking have presented Li Peng, the Chinese prime minister, with a list of 77 church leaders and members who have been arrested or questioned, and have asked him to stop the repression of religious believers.

Arms inspection

Warsaw — Moscow has agreed to let Poland inspect Soviet bases on its territory to check for the possible presence of chemical weapons, a foreign ministry spokesman said. Polish experts were banned from inspecting two bases last month, raising concern that such weapons may be held there. *(Reuter)*

Priest seized

Cotabato — Gunmen seized a French priest from his car in the latest kidnapping in the southern Philippines, officials said. Yves Caroff, aged 66, was returning from Cotabato to Kaus for Easter when at least six men stopped his car. They took him and his driver to the mountains, but later freed the driver. *(Reuter)*

Baggage control

Moscow — Aeroflot pilots tied up an unarmed passenger who tried to hijack an airliner to Sweden and put him in the forward luggage compartment until they reached Kaliningrad. The Tu 134 jet, with 80 passengers, was over Kaliningrad when the man demanded that it fly to Stockholm. The plane landed on time. *(AP)*

Exit an insect

Nairobi — Kenya banned performances of a play that examines injustice and corruption through the eyes of a cockroach, producers said. *Fate of a Cockroach*, by Egyptian Tewfik al-Hakim, was the latest piece of political theatre banned recently in the state. *(Reuter)*

Fizz bucked

Seoul — Coca-Cola was removed from 30,000 South Korean stores in response to a consumer boycott aimed at its local bottler, a business conglomerate blamed for contamination of drinking water. Stores said they would boycott all products handled by the Doosan Group, which also markets Kodak film and Kentucky Fried Chicken. *(AP)*

Hijack warning

Singapore — The commando raid which killed the four Pakistani hijackers of a Singapore Airlines Airbus would send a message to other would-be hijackers to keep away, said a leading newspaper as the island state revelled in the success of its security measures. *(Reuter)*

Pope's divisions arm for Eastern crusade

From ROGER BOYES IN WARSAW

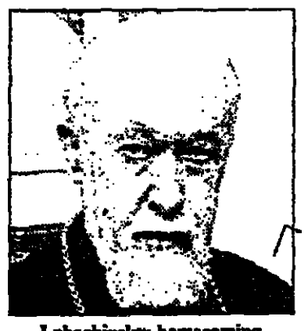
THE return this Easter of Cardinal Myroslav Lubachivsky to his Lvov archdiocese will be a triumphant homecoming for the Uniate Catholics of the Ukraine, that most unhappy of churches.

But the journey is much more than a celebration of new-found religious liberties in the Soviet Union — it marks a new phase in the *Ostpolitik* of the Vatican and the Polish Pope. The Pope played a big part in the collapse of communist rule in Eastern Europe; quite how large is a matter of dispute. Certainly his visits to Poland in 1979, 1983 and 1987 laid the groundwork and propelled the Solidarity opposition. His 1981 *Laborem Exercens* encyclical, on the dignity of work and the rights of the individual, was interpreted as a an anti-communist document, although it was also aimed at the capitalist exploitation of labour.

His diplomacy squeezed legal guarantees of religious tolerance from President Gorbachev, and in Eastern Europe Christian symbols and imagery were deployed in the revolt against communism.

Now the time has come for another battle for the East. On one front, the Pope is trying to bring together the Orthodox and Catholic churches. Can the newly legalised Uniate Catholics, who follow the rites of the Eastern Orthodox Church but maintain loyalty to the Pope, act as a bridge across Europe? Or will the Uniates in the Ukraine, Romania and Yugoslavia merely provoke the animosity of the Orthodox hierarchy and sow new tensions in Eastern Europe?

The second front is against consumerism. The Pope has declared this year to be the "year of social doctrine" and has called a pan-European synod in October to discuss the fundamental issues. In May the pontiff will issue a new encyclical which will give ethical guidance to the new democracies of Eastern Europe. When the Pope visited Czechoslovakia last year he declared that "the Church must learn to live with two lungs" — the spiritual strength of the Church in the East would help to renew the wayward, consumer-oriented flocks of the West. The East, however, seems inclined to embrace the capitalist vices that the Pope deplores.



Lubachivsky: homecoming marks new Vatican policies

The crusade against communism, which was sometimes portrayed in the Church as a Manichaean struggle between good and evil, was by contrast a simple affair. The ordination of secret bishops, the training of underground priests, the bible-smuggling, and the open appeal to the people rather than governments of the East was a fight understood by the Church. But the question of the Uniate churches shows the complications that have arisen as a result of the end of the Cold War. The Ukrainian Catholic Church was forcibly integrated into the Russian Orthodox Church in 1946, as a way of stifling Ukrainian nationalism.

Now the Uniate Catholics are breaking out of their imposed union with the Orthodox Church and there is friction between them. This can be seen in Yugoslavia, where the Church was repressed, and in Romania where, as in the Ukraine, the Uniate Church was absorbed by the Orthodox hierarchy.

For the Vatican to use the Uniate Catholics as an advance guard in the move towards church unity is a risky matter, tapping old resentments and touchy issues of ethnicity with Hungarians versus Romanians, Serbs versus Croats. Better, perhaps, to wage war on materialism, which is not exactly untrodden ground for the Vatican.

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Well, are the English lazy?

Jonathan Clark

The approach of Easter Bank holiday, religiously observed in the midst of a recession, reopens the old question: are the English lazy? From the Reformation, the English credited themselves with being the chief exponents of the Protestant work ethic. Until the 1840s the word "industry" meant the virtue of industriousness, not a form of manufacturing. Protestant Englishmen looked with disapproval on the proliferation of saints' days in Catholic Europe, and the unnecessary idleness they entailed.

It did not last: 18th-century English workers, especially those artisan and piece-rate workers who could set their own rhythms of labour, replied by inventing "Saint Monday" as an assertion of personal independence, allowing Sunday's idle revels to spill over into the day following.

Are continental Europeans, then, more industrious? The English élite, historically distanced from the world of work, has failed to answer this question. Their attitude was brilliantly encapsulated by the plebeian Ralph Glasser in his memoir *A Gorbals Boy at Oxford*, where he describes the patrician Richard Crossman, then a don, leaning back in his chair and asking: "Why *do* people work?"

Crossman was indulging a philosophical speculation about the essential meaning, the platonic idea, of work. The grubby, repetitive realities of toil would only have dispelled this idyll. For the élite such as Crossman, work was an intellectual category. Of the realities of toil they knew remarkably little.

Crossman: why do we work?

Consequently, we still have no reliable answers to a series of interrelated problems in that large area where history and economics join. Are the English lazy? Do we take too many holidays? Did the the Protestant work ethic once flourish here? Do profound cultural differences mean that the English worker will never be as competitive as his German or Japanese counterpart, no matter what short-term expedients are adopted by governments of whatever party?

Economists' figures for productivity cannot tell us if the English are lazy, since they measure many things, including the quality of capital and management as well as the effort of the worker. Historians argued over the merits or evils of capitalism or *laissez-faire*, treating workers as largely passive victims or beneficiaries of an abstract system, but seldom until recently focused on how much effort or skill workers offered in the labour market. In the 1980s, econometric historians even denied the great premise — that England *did* suffer long-term economic decline.

But this did not silence the school of thought, led by the American historian Martin Wiener, which has attributed England's alleged economic malaise to the gentrification of the industrialist. But there were enough commentators in the gloomy 1970s, when Wiener's *English Culture and the Decline of the Industrial Spirit* was written, who attributed industrial weakness to the laziness of the labourer (a possibility he ignored) and the two theses hardly ever engaged with each other. Prejudices dominated, uncorrected by hard data.

Twentieth-century England acquired the image of laziness partly because it was the first great leisure culture of the West (if Renaissance Italian city states are disallowed). This meant that the English systematised, codified or simply invented almost all the sports that dominate modern leisure. Many of them can be traced back to a single entrepreneur, such as Sir Henry Lunn, who invented *spharistike*, later better known as lawn tennis (and created the package holiday industry), or his son Sir Arnold Lunn, who established the skiing disciplines of slalom, giant slalom and downhill in the 1930s.

But this is not evidence for a culture turning aside from work, preferring to fritter away its time in trivial pursuits. The leisure time was earned by successful toil in mine and factory. Sport is not the antithesis of the work culture: the enormous effort, zeal and commitment that sportsmen devote to their disciplines are evidence of a far more active involvement in the world than is suggested by the joyless, plodding drudgery of peasant societies.

Our prejudices which linked industriousness with Protestantism, capitalism or national character now cut no ice. Industriousness depends on opportunity.

The English were among the first to have the opportunity to work hard and productively, since the early development of the market economy in this country replaced underemployment with unemployment: instead of large numbers of people in a backward, largely agrarian, economy having little to do for much of the year, the inhabitants of a market economy were either (the majority) in productive employment or (the minority) wholly without any.

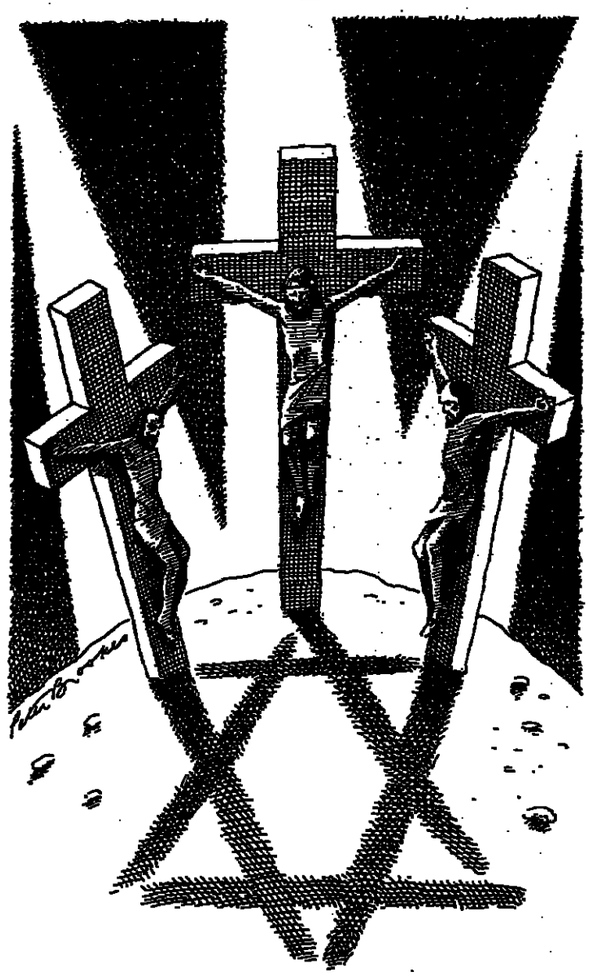
Foreign visitors to England in the 18th and 19th centuries often remarked on the fast pace of life in commerce and manufacture. The English acquired a deserved reputation for their laboriousness. By contrast the English abroad often saw less developed societies in which more people were idle because there was nothing for them to do: foreigners acquired a reputation in English eyes for laziness. This was sometimes equally undeserved: the Irish, a byword for fecklessness in their own disastrous economy, suddenly became a byword for muscular toil when they seized employment opportunities as navvies in 19th-century England.

We have ceased to underestimate foreigners. But since the Thatcherite revolution in 1979 reality has discredited academic theories such as Wiener's, as the English (like those Irish navvies) showed themselves eager to labour, once the legal and financial framework of society allowed them to prosper by doing so.

The author is a fellow of All Souls College, Oxford.

The world might weep

Dr Jonathan Sacks, the Chief Rabbi elect, proffers a ritual fit for all faiths from the Jewish festival of Passover, which this year coincides with Easter



One aspect of Passover used to fascinate me as a child. The Seder service — the meal over which the story of the exodus is re-enacted — is full of devices to engage the interest of the young. It begins with questions asked by a child. "Why is this night different?" "Why the unleavened bread and the bitter herbs?"

What intrigued me, though, was this. Every other night we were careful not to spill the wine of blessing. But on Passover, retelling the story of the ten plagues that struck Egypt, we deliberately spilt wine from our glasses, a drop for each plague. Why?

The answer was profound. The drops of wine represent the tears we shed for the Egyptians. To be sure, the Bible portrays ancient Egypt as a tyranny that first enslaved, then attempted to eliminate, the Israelites. The plagues were part of the liberation of an afflicted people. But the plagues had victims. And Jewish tradition ordained that we should not forget the victims, even though they were the enemy and the plagues were sent by God. We must shed a tear for them at the very moment of celebrating our freedom.

The rabbis added a fine touch of theology. The Bible describes how, pursued by the Egyptian army, the fleeing Israelites found their way blocked by the Red Sea. God caused the sea to divide, the people passed through on dry land, the Egyptian army was drowned and the Israelites sang a song of victory. Thus far the Bible. But the rabbis added this commentary. They said: the angels, too, wished to praise the power of God. But God silenced them, saying: "The work of my hands [the Egyptian army] is drowning, and shall you sing a song?"

Which is how as a child I learnt the two fundamental principles of Passover. A people who were once slaves must never enslave others. And to have faith is not simply to believe that God is on your side. When God brings about a victory, He remains the God who suffers with the victims of that victory.

This year, Passover and Easter fall on the same days. Scholars still debate the connection between the two. Was the last supper a Seder service? Did the events of the crucifixion and resurrection take place on Passover? The evidence is suggestive, though not conclusive. But the two festivals bear vivid testimony to the shared origins of Judaism and Christianity. Add to this that over the centuries there has been between Jews and Christians more sibling rivalry than brotherly love.

The first Christians were Jews. They thought in Jewish ways and used Jewish imagery. Like Passover, the events of Easter begin with a meal eaten at night, in which bread and wine play a significant and symbolic role. Like Passover, Easter celebrates a divine intervention in history: a redemptive event, a transition from death to life and slavery to freedom. Both festivals point towards Jerusalem. 1 Corinthians makes the connection explicit. The death of Jesus is the Passover sacrifice. Christians must eat unleavened bread, abandoning the yeast of pride.

But, from common origins, the two religions diverged. Passover is about a people, Easter about an individual, though they are both described as sons of God. Passover is about a political liberation, Easter about a metaphysical one. Biblical passages that Jews took literally, Christians took figuratively. More significantly, over the centuries, the fate of the two religions was reversed. Jews, who had once had national sovereignty, became a number of dispersed minorities. Christians, who had been a persecuted minority, acquired political power.

There then began to unfold one of the most tragic chapters in human history. The claims of the two faiths conflicted. Were Jews or Christians the heirs to the divine covenant? Was the Hebrew Bible to be understood rabbinically or christologically? Had the messiah come, as Christians claimed, or was he still awaited, as Jews believed? Judaism and Christianity excluded one another. If one was true, the other must be false. The ground was laid for a devastating Christian negation of Jews as the people who had rejected, and been rejected by, God.

In time, theology became violence. In 1144 in Norwich a rumour was spread that, on Good Friday of that year, the Jews had captured and tortured a Christian child. So began the savage and recurring accusation known as the blood libel. A demonic perversion of both Passover and Easter themes, it maintained that Jews annually re-enacted the crucifixion and used the blood to make unleavened bread. From England, the accusation spread to the rest of Europe. By 1247, Pope Innocent IV was moved to proclaim the falsity of the libel, but to no avail. It recurred periodically for eight centuries, and was adopted as anti-Semitic propaganda, so paving the way for the "crucifixion" of four-fifths of European Jewry.

Wherever the blood libel surfaced, Jews died. Passover, precisely because of its proximity to Easter, became the time when Jews expected and feared pogroms. There is, to use Rosemary Reuther's disturbing phrase, a line that leads from faith to fratricide.

In my recent Reith lectures, I argued the case for the persistence of religious faith. But I spoke as powerfully as I could of the danger of resurgent fundamentalism married to political unrest. Some months later, as my family and I sheltered in our sealed room in Jerusalem while missiles rained down on civilian targets in Israel, I knew I had understated rather than overstated the case. The confrontation was now not with Christianity but with Islam. But in the late 20th century, innocent people are still being killed in the name of God.

Is it true that, as Gerald Priestland put it, "Deep down inside it, every great religion has something that damns every other religion"? Northern Ireland, Lebanon and the Gulf war testify to the power of religion to fuel conflict rather than reconciliation. Half a century of inter-faith dialogue has not yet brought a world of religious tolerance. Might there be something more powerful than dialogue, something that would teach future generations a route to peace?

I believe there is. What if every faith were to institute, on its holiest day, a ritual to remind its followers of the sufferings it had wittingly or unwittingly caused others? What if we all took a glass of wine and spilt drops as symbolic tears for the victims of our victories? That is how I learnt as a child that the pains we suffer because of our faith we must never inflict on others because of their faith. Or in the language of Passover: those who have eaten the bread of affliction must give others bread, not affliction.

Language in a giddy state of locomotion

Philip Howard rides the vocabulary of the railways

So private companies are to bid for railway franchises. So British Rail has various proposals to prevent the first snow of winter bringing the nation to a squelching halt. Perhaps the proposals will be "side-lined", a railway term that has passed into our common stock of language. I can never make out what the station announcers are saying anyway, but it fills me with a twittering dread that I am missing something, probably the train. For many of us the railways take up a considerable portion of the day. The return trip on the blessed Circle Line from Notting Hill Gate to Tower Hill consumes at least two and often three hours.

Must they monotonously announce that due to an inaudible earlier incident somewhere or other, customers will experience slightly longer journey times than usual to all destinations? We are not customers, but poor bleeding passengers. And delay is the element in which we travel. If the trains ran on time, that would merit an announcement.

The railway is an important part of our language too. This neglected area of semantics has just been entertainingly explored for the first time by Jack Simmons, in his book *The Victorian Railway*. It is pure fluke that we call the thing the railway, whereas in America it is generally the railroad. Rail, meaning a bar of wood, came into English from the Latin *regula*, a rod, in the 14th century. When parallel wooden bars were laid down to carry coal carts in Nottinghamshire in 1605-10, the natural word for them was rails.

The language of coalmining is rich and local. In Tyneside the rails for the coal carts were called the waggonway. Railway was first recorded as an English word in the pit at Pensnett in Staffordshire in 1681. The alternative railroad arrived in Shropshire in 1702. And the two words established themselves in mining jargon and were used indifferently. Tramway also came in early in the 19th century, meaning something slightly different. A tramway, properly, was a plateway, L-shaped, on which wheels with flat treads like those used on roads could move. A railway came to mean one with a different kind of track, which required the wheels to be flanged. But the words were commonly confused.

Sending in his expenses for the Taff Vale Railway in 1835, Brunel could not remember whether the undertaking was called a tramroad or a railroad company. He was no kind of snob, but thought it tactful to add: "I have dignified it with the latter appellation." The difference between the two things was fixed from 1859 by the establishment of the street tramway.

The jargon of the new transport came rapidly into general use. Talking in 1831 to Sir Walter Scott about the team of hard-up assistants he employed, John Gibson Lockhart likened him to "a locomotive engine on a railway, when a score of coal waggons are seen linking themselves to it the moment it gets the steam up". Scott laughed, and added "but there was a cursed lot of dung carts too".

In the following year, Scott, a magpie of the latest jargon as well as an archaeologist of archaic words, wrote in his introductory address to *Count Robert of Paris*: "Alas! even the giddiness attendant on a journey on this Manchester rail-road is not so perilous to the nerves, as that too frequent exercise in the merry-go-round of the ideal world." Usage and precedent eventually decided in favour of railway as the British term for the thing. In the choice of words, mute inglorious railway engineers and engine drivers had just as much say as Brunel and Scott.

Station was another word transformed by the railway revolution. The word had been in English for more than two centuries as a stopping place on a journey. "Here is set down another of Paul's stations." In 18th-century America, it was used as a regular stopping place on a road for coaches to stop for a change of horses, and a meal for the passengers. The word "station" was not used by the Stockton & Darlington company when its line opened in 1825. But later companies were in no doubt what these places should be called. The card of invitation to the opening ceremony announced that "the doors of the station in Crown Street, Liverpool, will be open at nine o'clock".

Locomotive turned the old adjective from locomotion into a noun. It is the only word of railway jargon that is common to most of the railway languages. There are wide variations in other words. A driver in English is an engineer in American, a *mécanicien* in French, a *Lokomotivführer* in German, a *macchinista* in Italian, and a *maquinista* in Spanish.

So try to listen when the platform announcer makes his inaudible squeaks and squawks. You may just hear new language being minted, as well as the usual apologies for the customary delays.

...and moreover

ALAN COREN

Over the past couple of days, I have seen enough animated busts to last me a lifetime. Not, of course, that I have any idea how long a lifetime lasts, which is why I became involved with the animated busts in the first place. Also a fair number of storeyed urns.

All the urns, mind, told pretty much the same story, viz, we are standing here on top of someone lying here, may we implore the passing tribute of a sigh? Which, naturally, I offered; the least I could do under the circumstances, since, lucky old me, I was not under anything else.

Not, anyway, for the time being. Time being what it is, however, it is only matter of it before someone will be chiselling urns and busts for me. Though what I'd really prefer is an anchor: I have seen a lot of anchors over the past couple of days, too, and they're very fetching, especially when well-mossed, jauntily tilted, and attached to a symbolically broken chain in permanent dangle; but I imagine you would have to be a dead sailor to qualify. I do not know what a dead hack qualifies for, I did not see any marble typewriters with the keys symbolically wedged into a terminal jam, but I suppose you could ask.

First things first, though, even when it comes to last things, and before the wife and I start flipping through stonemasons' swatches, we have to find a site to put something up over. All right, down under. I introduce my wife, by the way, only because choosing a grave was her idea. She is a practical lady, and when, leafing last Monday through our local rag, she spotted a report that the cost of a Barnet burial plot is to rise from £225 to £270, she read it aloud to me. Not so that we might take instant advantage of this corking deal — though practical, she stops short at viewing a suicide pact as a smart way of saving ninety quid — but as a sly prolegomenon to making me think practically, too. Would it not be sensible to purchase a few feet of diggable sod now, rather than wait to the last minute and be forced to hurtle hither and yon with a coffin on the roof-rack and a shovel in the boot?

The first thing I discovered was that Cricklewood has no graveyard. As an impending rude forefather of the hamlet, I felt this to be a bit stiff, especially as, if you *are* a bit stiff, Barnet can offer you only Hendon Cemetery. I do not want to be part of Hendon: Hendon is not me. I put this to Barnet, and she picked up her map, noted that I lived a mere quarter-mile from Hampstead Cemetery, and asked if I had known anyone in Camden for 25 years. If I did, and they would vouch for me, I could get under Hampstead.

Hampstead is not me, either, but it is less not me, so we went to look at it; a mite uneasily, because though that quarter-mile may be a small step for man, it is a giant step for estate agents, and I should not like posterity to judge that though I could not afford its chic in life, I could not resist it in death.

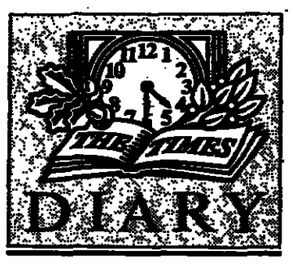
That said, it is a pleasant spot. Or, rather, several hundred spots of differential pleasantness: choosing a grave is thus much like choosing a house — should it be secluded or convenient, were we after an old characterful bit or a new trim bit, did we want a sunny aspect, a peaceful shade, a view, a tree, a nice stone bench?

You can go barmy. You start wondering what you'll like when you're six feet under it and unlikely to be in a position to like anything. You end up going to look at cemeteries in Kilburn and Hammersmith and Islington and anywhere else a local resident will vouch for your not creating any posthumous trouble, and after a bit you come home again and wonder whether you've missed anything, might there be something beneath a nice yew somewhere, a stream, a lowing herd, a lea?

The upshot is, you can't top Highgate. Highgate was a knockout. Highgate we really wanted to be seen dead in. The trouble with Highgate was that a double plot, 4ft by 6ft 6in, cost £5,000. Unless — and here our charming guide allowed himself a tiny cough — we cared to be buried not side by side, but, er, how should he put it?

Stacked, is how he should put it. 2ft 6in by 6ft 6in, but dug nice and deep, and two of you can get out for a mere £3,120. Since, though, it is also what you get in for, it clearly needs a bit more thought.

Not difficult, once you are clear about the bit more thought it needs.



Lyons rampant

Plain Jack Lyons may be glad to know that his knighthood will live on, for the time being at least, in the Sir Jack Lyons Opera Theatre at the Royal Academy of Music, and in the Sir Jack Lyons concert hall at York University. But many of the other organisations with which he has been associated over the years are ruefully facing hefty bills to take account of his humbler status as they contemplate reprinting stationery that boasts his knighthood. However, none of those to whom he has been a generous benefactor, such as the London Symphony Orchestra and the Shakespeare Birthplace Trust, seems to want to kick a man when he is down and end their association with him.

At both the London theatre and the York concert hall his knighthood will remain in lights until the ruling bodies of the two institutions meet and decide otherwise. They appeared reluctant yesterday to do so. "No change is planned at the moment," was the message from the campus at York.

At the Royal Academy of Music, the matter will not be discussed by the governors until early May under the chairmanship of Guy Whalley. Peter Shellard, director of development, says: "We are staunch defenders of Sir Jack — sorry: Jack. We must call him that now. He is a benefactor and we hope he always will be."

The Queen, who formally stripped Lyons of his title, is unlikely to become involved, but her position as a patron of the Royal Academy of Music can only increase pressure on the governors to change the theatre's name. Shellard, however, denies that her position will influence them. "She is merely a patron," he says. Merely? Surely without her, the body would be merely an academy?

● *The RSC had clearly instructed its actors to be on their best behaviour at the reopening of its Barbican home this week with* Love's Labours Lost. *After the first night, Simon Russell Beale, who plays the King of Navarre, told Lord Palumbo he was the model for his characterisation. "I was looking for someone scrupulously polite and well polished," he told the chairman of the Arts Council. Whether this will assist the RSC when it comes to negotiate next year's grant remains to be seen. The* Times *reviewer thought Beale's performance "a bit ingratiating" and "roly-poly".*

Royal mail goes west

A collection of unpublished letters from George III to his Lord Chancellor, Lord Thurlow, is almost certain to go abroad after auction at Bonhams in London next month. The sale of the Thurlow Archive, containing 86 unpublished documents dated between 1772 and 1792, including 24 in the king's handwriting, has excited considerable interest at home and abroad, but no British institution has found the £45,000 needed to purchase the collection.

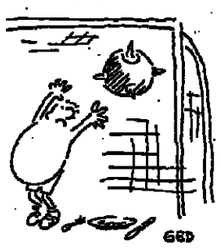
The British Library and the Royal Archive at Windsor have both failed to find funds, and neither will be bidding. As the letters cover the period of the American war of independence, with the king writing dismissively of the declaration of independence, it is likely that the archive will go to an American university or library.

The letters have remained in the Thurlow family for more than 200 years and are being offered for sale by the widow of a direct descendant of the former Lord Chancellor. "It is a significent collection," says Leslie Mitchell, fellow of modern history at University College, Oxford. "Thurlow was George III's secret agent in Pitt's cabinet. The letters are of great historical importance, and if the collection is broken up it would be a matter of great sadness. Unfortunately, the only chance of keeping them together is likely to be if they go to America."

Tight game

The crew of HMS Brilliant, the guardship for British minehunting operations in the Kuwait port area, has decisively beaten soldiers from the Fourth Armoured Brigade in a football match. The 3-0 victory was hardly surprising, given that a visit to the warship before the match was the first chance since December that the boys from the desert had to enjoy a proper British breakfast of sausages, bacon and black pudding. This was washed down with their first beer of 1991.

The navy's hospitality, according to the rueful losers, was even more generous than usual and second helpings were accepted. The effect on army waistlines was considerable; on the scoreline it was devastating. "It might have had something to do with our victory," concedes a navy spokesman. "But we would have won easily anyway."



Heffer's day

When Eric Heffer, MP for Walton, was given the freedom of the city of Liverpool at a ceremony at Speaker's House in Westminster on Wednesday night, it was the first time he had left his London home since he cast his vote in the House of Commons against the Gulf war in January. The veteran left-winger was too ill with cancer to travel to Liverpool, so the city came to him.

Neil Kinnock set aside their political differences to attend, and found himself rubbing shoulders with Tony Mulhearn, one of the Liverpoool Militants who was expelled from the Labour party, as well as Tony Benn and Michael Foot. Three Tory MPs also attended, while Bernard Weatherill, the Speaker, read a moving tribute from John Major.

Heffer, who was presented with an illuminated scroll in a mahogany box, said he would never have accepted a knighthood or peerage, but was proud to receive an honour that had been bestowed on such working-class heroes as the Beatles and the former Liverpool football manager Bob Paisley.

● *Was it coincidence that the company hired to transport Lord Runcie's effects from Lambeth Palace this week is called Bishop's Move? Apparently so. Manager David Guest says the firm, founded 130 years ago by Joseph James Bishop, does not specialise in ecclesiastical removals. Some clergymen, though, clearly find the name to their liking. "We have done quite a few vicarage removals recently," he says.*

مكان الاعلان

Through the Son, then, God decided to bring the whole universe back to himself. God made peace through his Son's sacrificial death on the cross and so brought back to himself all things, both on heaven and on earth.
Colossians 1 : 20 G.N.B.

BIRTHS

ARNOLD - On March 27th, to Debbie and Matthew, a son, Thomas Matthew, a brother to William.

BOWYER - On March 15th, at Queen Mary's, Sidcup, to Margaret (née Morton) and Michael, another gorgeous daughter, Grace Emma, a sister for Amy Margaret.

BROOKS - On March 25th 1991, at The Portland Hospital, London, to Priscilla and Bill, a daughter, Olivia Jane, a sister for Phoebe.

CAVENDISH - On March 25th, to Margaret (née MacDonald) and William, a son, Myles Joseph Charles, a brother for Monica.

HAMILTON - On March 26th, to Laura and Adrian, a son, Archie.

HEWSON - On March 26th, to Nigel and Auriol (née Fuller), a daughter, Liana Louise, a sister for Cari.

HOLLINGWORTH - On March 27th, at The Portland Hospital, to Christine (née Bradford) and David, a son, Richard James, a brother for Andrew.

HORNYOLD-STRICKLAND - On March 24th, to Tessa (née Fawcett) and Robert - a daughter, Zoe, sister to Francis and Rollo.

KRZYZANOWSKI - On March 22nd, to Sarah (née Mather) and Mike, a daughter, Rosannah, a sister for Catherine.

LONG - On March 26th, at The Portland Hospital, to Katharine and Julian, a daughter, Sophie Madeleine.

WALTON - On March 28th, to Jane (née Hincks) and Anthony, a daughter, Jennifer Helen.

WILKINSON - On March 27th, to Christine (née Lewis) and Greg, twins, Dominic Michael and Alexander Edward, brothers for Adam and Victoria.

GOLDEN ANNIVERSARIES

ERSKINE:HARDING - On March 29th 1941, at St Mark's, Swindon, Peter to Janet. Now living at Uffington, Oxon.

DEATHS

BATES - On March 27th, aged 81, Ralph William Pasteur, beloved husband of Virginia, much loved father of Daisy and William.

BRUCE - On Tuesday March 26th 1991, peacefully at Presbury Court Nursing Home, Bovey Tracey, James Scott, aged 93 years. Thanksgiving Service at The Avenue Methodist and United Reformed Church, Newton Abbot, on Wednesday April 3rd at 2.30 pm, - followed by family committal at Exeter Crematorium. Family flowers only, donations to Sight Savers at the service or to Lloyds Bank, Moretonhampstead, Devon.

CHAMBERS - On March 25th, in her sleep at Royal Marsden Hospital, J. Frances, daughter of Harry and Judy, sister of Richard, Stephen, Martin, Helen, Margaret and John. A Funeral Service in celebration of her life will be held at 11.30 am on Thursday April 4th at the Lady Chapel, Westminster Cathedral, Victoria Street, W1, prior to private family cremation. Family flowers only please. Donations, if desired, to Royal Marsden Appeal Fund, in the name of Frances Chambers.

DORMOR - On March 23rd, in hospital, Cicely Ethel, formerly of Offwell, Devon and of Oxford. The eldest daughter of the late Mr & Mrs H.D. Dormor.

EYLES - On March 27th, at home, Eric (Freddy), dearly loved husband of Norah and father of Angela and Julia. His loving and generous spirit enriched our lives. Sadly mourned. Funeral private. Family flowers only, but donations if desired to Ian Rennie Hospice at Home, 63 Burkes Road, Beaconsfield, Bucks.

FIELD - On March 26th, peacefully, Vivien Hermione, beloved wife of Jack and much loved mother of Judith and Louise. Fortified by the Rites of the Church. Requiem Mass 4 pm on Monday April 1st, at St John's Cathedral, Norwich, Norfolk. Flowers to Peter Taylor Funeral Services, 85 Unthank Road, Norwich, Norfolk.

GAUTE - On March 27th, peacefully, Joseph Hatchell Hogarth Gaute, loved and devoted husband of Frances and father of Catherine and the late Philip. Funeral private. No flowers but donations, if desired, to Animal Shelter.

HOWE - On March 27th 1991, peacefully at Ridgemead House Nursing Home, Edward Arthur (Ted), beloved husband of the late Robin, much loved father of Brenda and grandfather of Charlotte and Siobhan. Funeral Service at Slough Crematorium on Wednesday April 3rd at 2.30 pm. Family flowers only. Donations if wished to The British Diabetic Association.

JOYCE - Dr. Eileen, see Mann.

MANN - On March 26th 1991, Mrs Eileen Joyce Mann (Dr. Eileen Joyce, C.M.G., The Concert Pianist) of Limpsfield, Surrey. Cremation at 3 pm on Monday April 8th at Worth. A Memorial Service later, details to be announced. Donations in lieu of flowers to Guide Dogs for the Blind please.

MASSEY COLLIER - On March 27th, peacefully in hospital, Sheila Campbell, aged 72 years. Beloved mother of Fiona and sister of Effie and Hector. Funeral Service at King Charles The Martyr Church in Tunbridge Wells on Friday April 5th at 10.30 am, followed by interment. Flowers to E.R. Hickmott & Son, 41 Grove Hill Road, Tunbridge Wells.

MIERS - On March 26th, peacefully in his sleep at home, James Anthony Hammer Miers. Funeral at St Andrews Church, Medstead, on Thursday April 4th at 2.30 pm.

NEWBERY - On Tuesday March 26th, peacefully at Northwick Park Hospital, Harrow, Ronald James. Cremation to take place at Breakspear Crematorium, Ruislip, at 2.15 pm on Friday April 5th, preceded by a service at 1.15 pm at St Mary's Parish Church, Northolt Village.

ROBINSON - On March 26th 1991, William Pemberton, husband of the late Marion Robinson, dearly loved father of Blair, Patricia and Nicola. Funeral Service at Chichester Crematorium on Tuesday April 2nd at 4.30 pm. No flowers, but if desired, donations to The Cancer Research Campaign, 2 Carlton House Terrace, London SW1Y 5AR.

ROBINSON - On March 26th 1991, at Mount Alvernia Hospital, Guildford, after a very short illness, Richard John, very much loved husband of Shelagh and father of Tim, Lucy and Andrew, grandfather of Harriet and Oliver. Funeral private.

ROTHWELL-MARTELLI - On March 28th, Pamela, Physicist, aged 64, peacefully after a long illness. No flowers, donations if wished to Copper Cliff Hospice, 74 Redhill Drive, Brighton or Victoria Hospital, Lewes.

STEPHEN - On Wednesday March 27th 1991, Dr. William Robert (Bob) Stephen, M.B. Ch.B., aged 74 years, at his home, Broad Reach, Fochabers, loved and loving husband, father and grandfather. Funeral Service at Bellie Parish Church, Fochabers, on Saturday March 30th at 10.30 am, to which all are welcome, thereafter private at his own request. Family flowers only please.

WILSON - On March 28th, in Canberra, Australia, Roland Whitwell, much loved husband of Mary (dec.), devoted father, father-in-law and grandfather of Margaret, Andrew, Christopher, Philip and Robert and friend of so many worldwide.

IN MEMORIAM – WAR

AGAZARIAN - Jack Charles Stanmore, F/Lt. Royal Air Force V.R., murdered 29th March, 1945, Flossenberg; and Noel le Chevalier F/O Royal Air Force V.R., killed in action 16th May, 1941, Cyrenaica.
'Detur Gloria Soli Deo.'

IN MEMORIAM – PRIVATE

McGOWAN, Henry, born 29th March 1891 at Bristol; died 8th September 1948 at Leeds; sometime Bishop of Wakefield and previously Vicar and Archdeacon of Aston, Birmingham. Much loved father, pastor and friend. BHM/DKM.

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HAPPY BIRTHDAY Mum - have a great Easter - with love and best wishes. Donna.

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PUBLIC NOTICES

PASTORAL MEASURE 1983
The Church Commissioners have prepared a draft redundancy scheme providing for the appropriation of the redundant church of Haslingden Grane St Stephen and the land annexed or belonging thereto to use as a nursing home and for purposes ancillary thereto (Blackburn diocese). Copies of the draft Scheme may be obtained from the Church Commissioners, 1, Millbank, London SW1P 3JZ to whom any representations should be sent within 28 days of the publication of this notice.

PUBLIC NOTICES

NOTICE UNDER SECTION 3 OF THE REVERTER OF SITES ACT 1987
The Former School House West Meon in the County of Hampshire.
WHEREAS
(1) The Trustees of the National School West Meon formerly held the land known as The School House West Meon Hants under a deed dated the 6th April 1846 and made between William Butterworth Bayley (1) The Rector and Churchwardens of the Parish of West Meon (2). The deed was made under the provisions of the Schools Sites Acts upon trust for use for the purposes of a Residence for a Schoolmaster. On ceasing to be used for those purposes there was provision for reverter of the land.
(2) The land ceased to be so used and by virtue of Section 1 of the Reverter of Sites Act 1987 became subject to a trust to sell the land and to stand possessed of the net proceeds of sale and of the net rents and profits until sale upon trust for the persons who but for that Act would from time to time be entitled to the ownership of the land by virtue of its reverter.
(3) The Trustees have sold the land and now hold the property specified in the schedule hereto on the last-mentioned trust.
Now the Trustees give notice as follows:-
1. The Trustees propose to apply to the Charity Commissioners for England and Wales under Section 2 of the Reverter of Sites Act 1987 for an order establishing a Scheme with respect to the property subject to the said trust which will:
(a) extinguish the rights of beneficiaries under the trust: and
(b) require the Trustees to hold the said property on trust for such charitable purposes as may be specified in the order.
2. Any beneficiary under the trust who wishes to oppose the extinguishment of his rights should notify his claim in writing to the Trustees c/o Messrs. White & Bowker of 19 St. Peter Street Winchester Hants within three months from today.
SCHEDULE
£68,061.75 invested in Income Units of the Charities' Investment Fund

Notice of Appointment of Joint Administrative Receiver
We Robert David Hewitt and Lynn Gibson of Gibson Hewitt & Co were appointed Joint Administrative Receivers of M.J. Burrows & Sons Limited, Registered Number 1415077 by Lloyds Bank Plc on 21 March 1991.

LEGAL NOTICES

Notice of appointment of liquidator
Pursuant to section 109 of The Insolvency Act 1986
Company Number: 1376725. Name of company: Barfields Advertising & Publicity Ltd. Nature of business Advertising Consultants. Type of Liquidation: Creditors' Voluntary. Address of registered office: Segal Davis Rose Treviot House 186-192 High Road Ilford Essex IG1 1JQ. Liquidators name and address: Richard Andrew Segal, Segal Davis & Rose Treviot House 186-192 High Road Ilford Essex IG1 1JQ. Office holder number: 002685. Date of appointment: 13th March 1991. By whom appointed: Members' & Creditors'.
Date: 14th March 1991
Richard Andrew Segal
Liquidator

LEGBRAY LIMITED
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that a meeting of the creditors of the above company, in accordance with the provisions of Section 98 of the Insolvency Act 1986, will be held at Price Waterhouse, No1 London Bridge, London SE1 9QL on 10 April 1991 at 2.45 pm. The purposes of the meeting are to receive a Statement of Affairs and a report on the company from a director and if the creditors wish to do so, to nominate a liquidator and appoint a liquidation committee.
A list of the names and addresses of the company's creditors will be available for inspection at the offices of Price Waterhouse, No 1 London Bridge, London SE1 9QL on any of the business days prior to the date of the meeting.
Proxies for use at the meeting must be returned to Price Waterhouse, No 1 London Bridge, London SE1 9QL by 9 April 1991 at 2.00 pm and claims must be made in writing and may be made to the same address.
By order of the Board
RP Ellision
Director
Date: 26 March 1991
Note
Any creditor who has not received notice of the meeting and who wishes to attend or be represented at it should ring Ms M Wong on 071 939 3000 extension 4612 to obtain the necessary forms.

Notice of Appointment of Liquidator
Voluntary winding up (Members or Creditors)
Pursuant to section 109 of The Insolvency Act 1986
To the Registrar of Companies
Company number: 1187199
FELLMINSTER LIMITED
Nature of Business: Proprietors/Managers of Sports/Recreational Centres. I give notice that I have been appointed liquidator of the above company on 14 March 1991. The appointment was by (the company/the creditors). Type of liquidation (Members)(Creditors). Name of Liquidator: Peter James Yeldon. Address: No1 Riding House Street London W1A 3AS
Date: 26 March 1991
PJ Yeldon, Liquidator

LEGAL NOTICES

IN THE MATTER OF FELLMINSTER LIMITED
(In Members' Voluntary Liquidation)
Company Number: 1187199
Notice to Creditors of Fellminster Limited
On 14 March 1991 the above named Company was placed into Members' Voluntary Liquidation and Peter James Yeldon of Smith & Williamson, No 1 Riding House Street, London, W1A 3AS, was appointed Liquidator by the Members.
The Liquidator gives notice pursuant to Rule 4.182A of the Insolvency Rules 1986 that the creditors of the Company must send details, in writing, of any claim against the Company to the Liquidator, at the above address, by 13 June 1991.
The Liquidator also gives notice under the provision of Rule 4.182A (6) that on 1 July he intends to make a final return to creditors who have submitted claims by 13 June 1991 and that there will be no further distribution to creditors.
The Company is able to pay all its known creditors in full.
Dated 26 March 1991
PETER JAMES YELDON
Liquidator

IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUSTICE
CHANCERY DIVISION
No 002029 of 1991
IN THE MATTER OF FLEXPACK U.K. LIMITED
AND
IN THE MATTER OF THE COMPANIES ACT 1985
ADVERTISEMENT
of registration of Order and Minute for reduction of capital
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Order of the High Court of Justice (Chancery Division) dated 18 March 1991 confirming the reduction of the capital of the above named Company from £21,000,000 to £18,068,973 and the Minute approved by the Court showing with respect to the capital of the Company as altered the several particulars required by the above-mentioned Act were registered by the Registrar of Companies on 21 March 1991.
DATED this 29 day of March 1991
Dibb Lupton Broomhead and Prior
Fountain Precinct
Balm Green
Sheffield S1 1RZ
Solicitors for the above-named Company

Notice of appointment of Administrative Receiver
AVANT HOTELS LIMITED
Registered number 1510809. Trading names GRANGE PARK HOTEL & AVANT HOTEL OLDHAM Nature of business: HOTEL OPERATOR Trade classification. 48. Date of appointment of administrative receivers: 5 MARCH 1991. Name of person appointing the administrative receiver: BARCLAYS BANK PLC Joint Administrative Receivers GORDON CHRISTOPHER HOSFIELD AND ALBERT EDWARD JAMES (office holder nos: 6699 and 1807) Address Price Waterhouse, 9 Bond Court Leeds LS1 2SN.

THE INSOLVENCY ACT 1986
CHANTON ENGINEERING LIMITED
(In Administrative Receivership)
A meeting of the creditors of the above Company will be held under the provisions of Section 48 of the Insolvency Act 1986 at the Chartered Insurance Institute, 20 Aldermanbury, London EC2V 7HY on April 10, 1991 at 2.30 pm to receive a report of the Joint Administrative Receivers and to decide if a committee of creditors should be appointed.
Creditors whose claims are wholly secured are not entitled to attend or be represented at the meeting.
A written statement of claim must be lodged with Joint Administrative Receivers by 12 noon on the day before the meeting at Ernst & Young, Becket House, 1 Lambeth Palace Road, London SE1 7EU.
TC Carter and ME Mills
Joint Administrative Receivers
Date. 25th March 1991

Notice of appointment of liquidator
Pursuant to section 109 of The Insolvency Act 1986
Company Number: 2272360. Name of company: Sky Level Management Ltd. Nature of business: 'Mini Cab Rentals'. Type of Liquidation. Creditors' Voluntary. Address of registered office: Segal Davis Rose Treviot House 186-192 High Road Ilford Essex IG1 1JQ. Liquidators name and address: Richard Andrew Segal, Segal Davis & Rose Treviot House 186-192 High Road Ilford Essex IG1 1JQ. Office holder number: 002685. Date of appointment: 6th March 1991. By whom appointed: Members' & Creditors'.
Date: 14th March 1991
Richard Andrew Segal
Liquidator

Notice of appointment of liquidator
Pursuant to section 109 of The Insolvency Act 1986
Company Number 2061402. Name of company. B & J Tyres (Barking) Limited. Nature of business: Tyre Retailers. Type of Liquidation: Creditors' Voluntary. Address of registered office: Segal Davis Rose Treviot House 186-192 High Road Ilford Essex IG1 1JQ. Liquidators name and address: Richard Andrew Segal, Segal Davis & Rose Treviot House 186-192 High Road Ilford Essex IG1 1JQ. Office holder number: 002685. Date of appointment: 11th March 1991. By whom appointed: Members' & Creditors'.
Date: 21st March 1991
Richard Andrew Segal
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CND shrugs off image of woolly hatted wirecutters

ADRIAN BROOKS

Kent and Thompson: broadening goals of campaign

By JOHN BLANDY

THE Iron Curtain may have gone up, arms reductions may have begun and the last American cruise missile left these shores, but 33 years after its birth, at the height of the cold war, the Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament is still marching.

On Easter Monday, supporters will tramp through the Cumbrian port of Barrow-in-Furness, from where the first Trident nuclear submarine is due to be launched this year. The bombs are still here and Britain is still committed to nuclear weapons but CND supporters feel they have won one argument: you cannot blow up the whole world to defend yourself. The vilification of nuclear weaponry is unassailable and that is due in some measure to CND.

The Barrow protest will reflect CND's calls for a "comprehensive arms conversion policy to social needs". It is pressing the government to divert the large sums devoted to globally lethal weapons into areas of common good, such as health, the environment, and education. The stance reflects a change from the movement's former one-issue aim.

Leading the demonstration will be Marjorie Thompson, CND's forthright new American chairman, and Bruce Kent, now a vice-president, who initiated the shift from pacifism to general disarmament when he expanded the movement's aims in 1989.

The strategy was to cast a wider net for membership, which had dropped to 65,000 from a peak of 100,000 in the early 1980s, attracting those who had been driven away by the reputation CND had been given for Trotskyites and irrational, woolly hatted wirecutters.

The new perspective of the CND is more international, Mr Kent said yesterday. Although it would maintain its identity, its concerns would overlap *with other pressure groups.* "We are taking more interest in world structures."

He felt that although the movement had become marginalised from Labour and the unions in its opposition to the Gulf war, its principled stance had been vindicated by the large numbers of Iraqi casualties, the *ecological* damage caused, and the exacerbation of the Palestine issue, "and not least the manipulation of the United Nations by the United States".

He added: "The way forward must be through inter-dependence, unless we are to fall back into a free-for-all arms race." Although there had been about 50 resignations from CND over the Gulf war, 6,000 new members had joined, he said.

Ms Thompson, who took over as chairman in November last year, has said that for the movement to grow it has to move on. "This is a new era for us, the chance to move away from being little Englanders to being international campaigners."

She has politics in her blood through her mother, ironically a right-wing Republican who ran Ronald Reagan's campaign to be governor of California, and has a successful spell as CND's parliamentary officer for several years, building a lobby sustem in the Commons that was the envy of other pressure groups.

She is a far cry from the *CND stereotype of the earnest* duffel-coated supporter. A misjudgment on *Question Time* during the Gulf war, in which she insulted the studio audience by referring to the "so-called United Kingdom" and the "racist" tones in which the war was being handled in Britain, may have made her few friends, but her skills of persuasion could be the ones needed to steer CND through the muddy waters of post-cold war politics into a wider and saner world.

MARCH 29 ON THIS DAY 1950

The marriage of Seretse Khama (1921-80) to Ruth Williams took place in 1948 when he was chief-designate of the Bamanguato, the largest tribe in Bechuanaland (Botswana). A year later he and his wife were accepted by his people, a decision overturned on dubious grounds by the Commonwealth Office which sent them into exile. Their dignity during the controversy was in sharp contrast to the shabby treatment meted out to them by the British government. In 1966 Sir Seretse Khama became the first president of the Republic of Botswana.

COMMONS DEBATE ON SERETSE

Revision of the Government's decision to exclude Seretse Khama from his tribal territory was urged by members of all parties in th House of Commons during a debate which continued into the early hours of this morning.

MR FENNER BROCKWAY (Eton, Slough, Lab) who raised the matter, maintained that the colour bar was the real issue behind the decision to refuse recognition of Seretse Khama as chief in Bechuanaland. Seretse Khama was endorsed in his chieftainship by a vote of over 5,000 to fewer than 50, and subsequent events had indicated a unity in the tribe which should be welcomed by all who believed in racial equality. If progress were made towards further unity by reconciliation of Tshekedi and Seretse Khama, and if steps were taken to disprove suggestions that there was danger of disunity and disturbance, would the Government be prepared to reconsider their decision not to recognize Seretse Khama as the chief of his tribe? He claimed that the Government were trying to appease the South African Government.

MR BEVERLEY BAXTER (Southgate, C) said that the matter had been handled clumsily by the Government.

MR HOGG (Oxford, C) said the Government had failed to justify their grave decision. The future of our civilization and our religion largely depended on the extent to which we could carry the people of the Empire with us in the fight against Communism. It was not a coincidence that the case of Seretse Khama had been eagerly taken up by Communists all over the world to drive a feeling of hostility between the African people and their British friends. The extent to which that had succeeded was due to the want of statesmanship on the part of the Government.

MR GORDON-WALKER, Secretary of State for Commonwealth Relations (Smethwick, Lab) said that if the Government had the final duty of preserving good government in the territory, and of preserving its integrity, it could not be argued that they must accept the decision of the tribal assembly. It could be said that the Government made a mistake; it could not be said they had no right to make their decision. In their view the unity of the tribe was better served by suspension of the recognition of Seretse Khama as chief. *If he were* recognized, there would be grave dangers of a serious division among his people.

It could be argued that the tribe had never really accepted the marriage, and it had certainly not been decided whether they would accept any children. A chief who succeeded in those circumstances would be in an increasingly weak position.

There was an important weight of African opinion that Seretse Khama should not in the interests of the tribe be recognized as chief. After the act of his marriage there was bound to be difficulty, and the Government had to balance one subject of difficulty against another. They came to the conclusion that the difficulty resulting from suspension of recognition would be much less grave and long lasting than those which would result from recognition. He did not conceal the difficulties, but insisted that the Government's decision was firm.

The debate was ended by a Government motion for the closure, which was carried by 198 votes to 80 – *Government majority, 118.*

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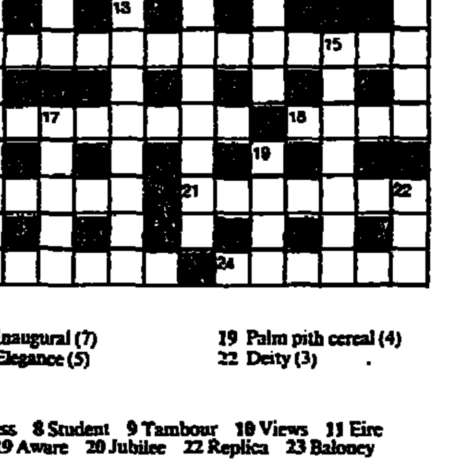

ACROSS
1 Air ball (6)
4 Tiny crustacean (6)
9 Strife (7)
10 Jungle cat (5)
11 Bring up (4)
12 And so forth (8)
14 UK 1926 work halt (7,6)
16 French war leader (2,6)
18 Punching hand (4)
20 Spiral-horned antelope (5)
21 Pursuing (7)
23 Fast (6)
24 Chilled (6)

DOWN
1 Prow (3)
2 Haggle (7)
3 Bread block (4)
5 Up to now (8)
6 Fireplace corner (5)
7 Imperishable (9)
8 Thought process freeze (6,5)
11 Inflexibility (9)
13 Brought down (8)
15 Inaugural (7)
17 Elegance (5)
19 Palm pith cereal (4)
22 Deity (3)

SOLUTION TO NO 2444
ACROSS: 1 Venite 6 Undress 8 Student 9 Tambour 10 Views 11 Eire 12 Tram 15 Sack 17 Vile 19 Aware 20 Jubilee 22 Replica 23 Baloney 24 Annexe
DOWN: 1 Vesuvius 2 Neuter 3 Tresses 4 Adam 5 Velour 6 Utter misery 7 SLR 13 Moderate 14 Deadpan 16 Cobble 18 Malice 20 Job 21 Line

If you can keep reciting poems...

How a bet in a pub became a challenge to recite all the greatest English poetry

AS SO often happens, it all started with a bet in a pub. Boris Johnson (Brussels correspondent for the *Daily Telegraph*) and I had been showing off: plucking out lines of English poetry and challenging each other to finish the quotation. I was confident – only a few weeks before, I had caught Boris out over "the true, the blushful Hippocrene". He was sure it was from Keats's "Ode on a Grecian Urn". I insisted it was from the "Ode to a Nightingale". I won that one.

Thus emboldened, I went further. How about a comprehensive challenge? How about reciting all the greatest poems in English? A few weeks to learn them, and then, over a beer, recite on command.

The first thing was to select the poems. Here I thought I had the advantage. I already had a list. Two years earlier, watching a programme on the history of English, I had been infuriated at being unable to complete quotations from well known poems, and decided the only answer was to learn them by heart.

At first the list seemed easy enough. There had to be some Shakespeare sonnets: "Shall I compare thee to a summer's day?", "When in disgrace with fortune and men's eyes", and "Full many a glorious morning have I seen" must be standard fare. I added "The expense of spirit in a waste of shame", "Being your slave, what should I do but tend", and the great, enigmatic No. 94: "They that have power to hurt". But for hopeless, wallowing nostalgia, who better than Housman? "Here dead lie we because we did not choose/To live and shame the land from which we sprung./Life, to be sure, is nothing much to lose;/But young men think it is, and we were young."

Detail from Joseph Severn's painting of Keats

Most were short and easy to learn. So were the hard-edged moderns: Stevie Smith's "Not Waving but Drowning", much of Yeats, Wilfred Owen, Philip Larkin. But what of the great long poems? Did it mean learning all the Keats odes? Indeed it did. I could leave off Hopkins's "The Wreck of the Deutschland", but only by including the shorter and harrowing "Thou Art Indeed Just, Lord" and "No Worst, there is None".

Boris was more classical, austere. How could I leave off "Lycidas"? And what about Gray's "Elegy"? "One of the greatest poems in the English language," he insisted. What's more, he already knew it. And what about Matthew Arnold's "Dover Beach"? (I did not know he had already mastered that one, too.)

So we got down to the hard bargaining, poem by poem. There were some guidelines: nothing silly, or in the school anthologies only because editors did not have the nerve to reject them. And, an important consideration, nothing too long. That ruled out all but a token presence of the Romantics: Byron managed just two poems, Shelley only "Ozymandias", and of Wordsworth only "Westminster Bridge" made it. In the end we had to add "Daffodils", even though it clearly fell into the category of "soppy poems we were made to learn when young".

Poems that thrilled the blood did well: the eerie first line "They flee from me, that sometime did me seek" guaranteed Sir Thomas Wyatt a place. But predictably most of the poems dealt with death, religious ecstasy and the agonies of love: John Donne's witty lust, Marvell's "To His Coy Mistress", Auden's "Lullaby", Eliot's "The Love Song of J. Alfred Prufrock".

The syllabus agreed, we set a date for the great challenge: the Dublin EC summit last June. But learning the lines turned out to be more work than we imagined – so we postponed the duel until the Rome EC summit last December. The best part of two weekends went into "Prufrock". As Dublin approached, panic set in. It was time for a bargaining session. Boris wanted to weed out the moderns – "Who is this man cummings? He's impossible to learn." I was ready to cut back on Yeats and Donne, both over-represented. There was a slaughter of various worthies but it still left 127 poems.

Despite teasing from colleagues, we agreed to keep the duel private. We met in a restaurant, tossed a coin and began, working down the syllabus alternately. Boris leant across the table in the echoing room and muttered conspiratorially: "Shall I compare thee to a summer's day . . ." A few English-speaking diners looked round in surprise. But confidence grew: by the time he got to Gray's "Elegy" he was in full flood, and the waiter with the sweet trolley had to wait until the end of all 32 stanzas. The result was a draw: both made more mistakes than we cared to admit. A second public challenge in the pub a week later also ended inconclusively: we had each managed three poems when news came in that Shevardnadze had resigned, and the gems of English literature were abandoned for more immediate trivia.

The enterprise was not in vain. Learning a poem is the only way to understand it – the meaning, the music and the resonance. Lively discussions on why this one was included and that left out led to spontaneous practical criticism sessions with friends, who all knew Kipling, and Macaulay's "Horatius", and began recitation unprompted after 40 years.

Boris and I are working on round two: a few choice fragments from the great plays, perhaps. We await the next European summit.

MICHAEL BINYON

PETER TREVANOR

"They are all sensible. They know what to do, and they also, I suspect, know about the morning-after pill": Judith Goodland reflects on the maturity of her pupils

Success and the single-sex girl

Kate Muir meets Judith Goodland, the headmistress of Wycombe Abbey school, where educational separatism endures, and thrives

Even years after leaving navy gym knickers behind, you are never quite at ease being sent to the headmistress. Particularly one with four coloured lights outside her study labelled "ring", "engaged", "wait" and "enter". There is still a deep-seated anxiety that she knows you have been smoking in the lavatories, or reading unsuitable literature on the train.

In fact, there is probably no safer assignment than asking the headmistress of a girls' school what, precisely, she thinks of single-sex education. But somehow, fear of a huge woman in hairy tweeds that would flail the skin of a lesser mortal outweighs logic.

Disappointingly, the modern headmistress – in this case Judith Goodland of the independent Wycombe Abbey School, in Buckinghamshire – looks, in her natty blue ensemble, more like an air hostess than a jumbo, and talks like a person, not a prison warder.

Last week, a campaign was launched to protect this endangered species, the headmistress, and her habitat, the school for young ladies. It was started by Sue Campion, who runs a girls' school in Essex, and who was afraid that falling pupil numbers would mean mergers for the 258 state girls' schools remaining, with an accompanying lowering of academic standards.

Girls produce better academic results and are more confident when taught separately from boys. Research from Birmingham and York universities shows that boys tend to dominate a class, and teachers of both sexes pay them more attention. In mixed schools girls get worse results, particularly in science subjects.

Mrs Goodland, aged 52, taught in primary and mixed comprehensive schools before coming to Wycombe Abbey. "The girls here assume they can do almost anything," she says. "They see women above them being successful and running things, and they gain confidence, because attention is not monopolised by boys."

When she worked in the comprehensive, it was different. "Boys developed more slowly, and certainly pre A-level we had to be careful when we streamed, or else the entire top division would have been female, because their results were better. We had to lower standards for boys and do a bit of careful mixing until they caught up with girls by the sixth form."

Many independent boys' schools started taking girls, in the sixth form to begin with, in the Seventies, although bastions such as Eton, Harrow and Winchester still hold out against the monstrous regiment. The others found that girls were a civilising influence, and made the atmosphere more natural.

"The competition when the boys' schools opened up was very good for girls' schools, and made us improve standards," Mrs Goodland says. Unlike other girls' boarding schools, Wycombe Abbey does not lose a slice of sixth formers to boys' schools – only four girls out of 90 sixth formers are leaving this year – because transferring would often mean a lowering of academic standards. About a quarter of pupils go on to Oxford or Cambridge, the rest to other forms of higher education.

Even when Rugby, scene of Tom Brown's schooldays, announced plans this month to go co-educational after 426 years as a boys-only zone, Wycombe Abbey held firm. "We have no intention of mixing at all."

'They do not need to rebel so much, and destroy personal relationships'

Mixing is no longer felt necessary, because girls' schools are no longer run on the traditional convent cum penal institution lines. Girls get the advantage of a single-sex education, without a single-sex social life. Indeed, at High Wycombe, the older girls can invite boys from other schools for dinner parties in their school houses, or for dances and days out.

Girls' schools go in and out of fashion. Single-sex schools went co-ed with the rise of equal opportunities legislation. But now that separatism has its supporters outside, in the form of women's business networks and clubs, they are making a comeback.

No longer, one suspects, are virgins teaching classes of virgins. There are fewer crusty misses in black gowns spattered with chalk dust and dandruff. "I am the first married head of Wycombe Abbey," says Mrs Goodland, who is now divorced with three grown-up children. "There are a lot more families around – some of the house mistresses have children, and the girls become instant aunties. It's more natural."

The girls are not exactly innocent. They go to compulsory chapel on Sunday, but they also know about sin and what to do about it. Unlike its inner-city equivalents, Wycombe Abbey is not plagued with problems such as unwanted pregnancies. "The girls are sensible. They know what to do, and they also, I suspect, know about the morning-after pill."

Comparing independent girls' schools with those outside is almost impossible. What happens in both is called secondary education, but its content is quite different. So is its cost. To send a girl to Wycombe Abbey costs £10,000 a year, for six years. Alternatively, you could send her to state school and buy a two-bedroom semi in High Wycombe.

The school is set in 160 acres of rolling parkland. It has 25 tennis courts, a theatre and a baronial hall. Old girls include Lady (Elspeth) Howe, and Judith Chaplin, John Major's political adviser. The girls indulge in strange activities such as the horse and hounds club, and Latin poetry competitions, but they no longer wear straw boaters. Recently, they went to the school council to demand . . . hot water, for their herbal tea at mealtimes.

Escaping from pressures of male society seems to do more good than harm. The girls can enjoy the spotty years between 11 and 16 without boys giving them marks out of ten for looks from the back row. There must be enough hormones created by 500 teenaged girls to give years of replacement therapy, but they are left to sort out their problems undisturbed.

"Being away from home is often an advantage when they are going through a difficult stage," Mrs Goodland says. "They do not need to rebel so much against their parents and destroy personal relationships. They are more independent here, and do not resent me imposing rules or being perfectly frightful to them, because that's what headmistresses are paid for."

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A tricky spirit level

Will Socrates have to convince the Amazing Randi?

Claims about the paranormal become ever more bizarre. In the United States new-age mediums, called channellers, are all the rage. In Germany they like paranormal experiences with a technical element: they go for E-rays, which are visible only to psychics and dowsers.

But increasing numbers of people are prepared to challenge the statements of psychics, spiritualists and other advocates of fringe science. Tomorrow night, London's Conway Hall in Holborn will host the first public lecture in Britain by James Randi, a former magician and escapologist who now makes a comfortable living exposing the way psychics and visionaries use elementary conjuring tricks to prey on gullible minds. The beneficiary of the evening is the *Skeptic*, a magazine which claims to take "a rational look at pseudoscience and the paranormal in the British Isles".

Mr Randi, a 62-year-old Canadian, is well known in Britain as the Amazing Randi, a magician who toured the country for many years. But he has devoted the past 20 years to exposing charlatans, taking on, he says, "every class of flummery", from psychic surgeons to spoon-benders. His career as an iconoclast of the paranormal took off in 1986, when he was awarded the Macarthur Foundation prize, worth $272,000 (£183,000 at the time), given to individuals of "genius", to pursue their interests.

As his reputation grew, Mr Randi was courted by reputable scientists. He was one of a team of three assembled by Dr John Maddox, the editor of *Nature*, to test the claims of a homoeopath in Paris three years ago. He has recently been in Britain researching and presenting a series called *James Randi Investigates . . .*, to be screened by Granada Television in July.

Sleight work: James Randi amazes some students

Some practitioners of spiritualism and pseudo-science are quite innocent, Mr Randi says, and some are outright frauds. What links them is that they deceive themselves. He is not, he says, against the paranormal *per se*: "I'm not a debunker, I'm willing to be shown. But I can have only so open a mind. It does not mean I've got a hole in my head."

As for the claims by David Icke, the former television presenter, to be a channel for the Christ spirit and to receive messages from Socrates, Mr Randi says: "It would be easy to test Mr Icke's claims. He could ask Socrates to speak in ancient Greek. But that might damage his belief system, and that would be a pity."

ANDREW LYCETT

● *James Randi is at the Conway Hall, Red Lion Square, London WC1 at 7.15pm tomorrow*

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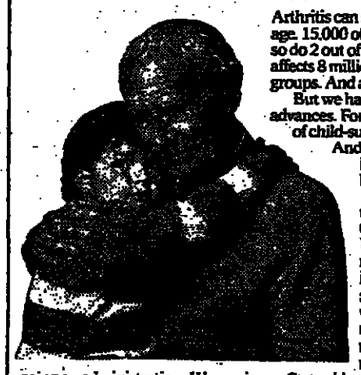

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RECORDS: ROCK

Souvenirs and soundtracks

The Doors: The Doors (Elektra 7559-61047-2)
Bob Dylan: The Bootleg Series Volumes 1-3 (Rare & Unreleased) 1961-1991 (Columbia 468086 2)
The Rolling Stones: Flashpoint (Columbia 468135)

"DEATH makes angels of us all," intones Jim Morrison with eerie prescience on "The Severed Garden (Adagio)". It is one of several moments on The Doors when it takes a minor mental effort to remember that this is the original work of Morrison and his colleagues, and not just a motion picture soundtrack conveniently written to order in the light of subsequent events. It took Oliver Stone to do it, but clearly the story of The Doors was a movie waiting to be made.

A victim of relentless, self-inflicted, Dionysian excess, Morrison's status was far from angelic by the time of his tawdry death in 1971. Drunk, bloated and dissipated at 27, his fate embodied the downside of the hippie dream. Yet such is the perverse logic by which rock's icons are judged that he has been lionised ever since. Certainly, The Doors are about the only group from that era whose music has never gone out of fashion. Their stock remained buoyant even during the punk era thanks to Francis Ford Coppola's use of "The End" in the vivid opening sequence of *Apocalypse Now* in 1979, and their back catalogue has sold consistently well throughout the Eighties.

Yet, for all the slick repackaging and digital remastering, the music on *The Doors*, basically a sensible cross-section of their most celebrated work, remains firmly rooted in the Sixties. The quaint organ sound of "Light My Fire", the faltering twang and ghostly tinkling piano of "Riders on the Storm", the ten minutes-plus of soap-box declamation that comprises "When the Music's Over"; these and others add up to a quintessential expression of the technical innocence and inflated self-importance which marked the work of that extraordinary decade's more self-regarding breed of performer.

Bob Dylan really was important, but despite one near-miss on his motorbike, he did not die, surviving instead to become something of an embarrassment. Even so, there is material enough to reaffirm belief in his towering abilities on **The Bootleg Series Volumes 1-3** *(Rare & Unreleased) 1961-1991*.

There are 58 tracks, many of them previously unreleased, as advertised, and spread roughly chronologically over three discs. The bulk of the goodies are on Volume 1, which provides a fascinating insight into the folk roots of Dylan's art. As John Bauldie's copious and authoritative accompanying notes underline, Dylan produced a vast amount of material surplus to his recording needs during the early stages of his career, much of it as good as anything that found its way on to the official releases of the time.

Of the many gems here, "Talkin' John Birch Paranoid Blues" demonstrates his often overlooked humour, and underlines the political protest dimension of his early work. "Who Killed Davey Moore?" is a searing anti-boxing diatribe, and "Moonshiner" illustrates the great subtlety of expression of which Dylan used to be capable. Certainly Volume 1 knocks Dylan's official releases over the last decade into a cocked hat. Such revelations need to be balanced against less-than-essential alternate takes of "Subterranean Homesick Blues", "Like a Rolling Stone" and others which start to creep in during Volume 2, and the less distinguished more recent material of Volume 3.

A hero now dead: Jim Morrison of The Doors

For sheer resilience, no other Sixties act has come close to emulating the Rolling Stones, those doyens of youthful rebellion who now boast an average age (48) one year older than that of the prime minister. **Flashpoint** is a live memento of the Steel Wheels/Urban Jungle outing of 1989/90, the biggest-grossing tour in the history of rock.

Although weighted on the side of old favourites such as "Satisfaction" and "Jumpin' Jack Flash", the album has its moment of contemporary glory with the inclusion of a new studio recording, "Highwire". A moderately nonconformist commentary on the recent fireworks in the Gulf, it is a great song in a classic Stones tradition, which has whipped up a predictable controversy and landed the group on *Top of the Pops* yet again. Alone of the great Sixties' acts, the Stones have managed to keep rocking the boat without capsizing it.

DAVID SINCLAIR

A hero still living: Bob Dylan as he was in 1966

ART: VENICE BIENNALE

The twilight people face the spotlight

John Russell Taylor finds that the mysteries of the long-vanished Celtic civilisation, centrepiece of this year's Venice Biennale, remain elusive

A people whose name is inextricably linked with twilight might be expected to make dull material for an international exhibition such as **The Celts: The First Europe**, this year's mega-show sponsored by Fiat at the Palazzo Grassi in Venice. Something rather wispy and crepuscular might be anticipated. That was how the 1890s saw the Celts. But the Celtic Twilight said more about *fin-de-siècle* sensibility than it did about the ancient Celts, and was mainly invented by Anglo-Irishmen such as Yeats, or Englishmen with aspirations to Celticness, such as Bax.

The real Celts, as briskly defined at the Palazzo Grassi, are not like that at all. This show looks astutely through the mists of time and legend at a race first glimpsed around the sixth century BC, somewhere between Bohemia and the Massif Central. They busily expanded over the next five centuries to Britain and Ireland, over the rest of modern France and most of the Iberian Peninsula, into northern Italy, down towards the Bosporus and into Anatolia.

Each age has its own preferred interpretations of the past. At the moment, European unity is the great goal, so it is no surprise that the dominating view of the Celts in this show is that of the "First Europeans". The exhibition's thesis is that, in their heyday, the Celts dominated so much of Europe that they were able to spread a reasonably uniform culture from the Bay of Biscay to the Black Sea. And they were, apparently, of European origin, unlike the succeeding invaders from Central Asia.

From such unexceptionable observations it is perhaps too easy to weave a new fantasy of Golden Age European unity under the beneficent Celts, who quietly laid the foundations of European culture as a whole. What is on view does not quite support this idea. As the organisers readily admit, little is known for sure about the Celts — though a lot more now than even 50 years ago.

But still there are enormous gaps. For example, ancient writers preserve the names of at least three major deities in the Celtic pantheon. A few surviving sculptures seem to indicate the same, but there is no way of knowing which deity was which.

There are still some striking coincidences. In one display case, for example, are several very similar small metal images of pigs which come from places as widespread as Portugal, Bulgaria, Czechoslovakia and northern Italy.

This degree of uniformity argues that some consistent culture underlay the otherwise confusingly scattered and variable evidences of the Celtic spirit at work. Apart from the interest in pigs, it is hard to pin down precisely the Celts' contribution to European culture. There is no single country nationalistically interested in whether the Celts have a "good press" today, so the artefacts can be left to speak for themselves.

This they do enjoyably and impressively. Gae Aulenti's design for the exhibition is elaborate and fanciful, but it does not give the impression of making something out of nothing.

Many of the metal objects, either utilitarian in base metals or in gold for empire, are beautiful in themselves. But they are also wonderfully displayed here with, on one side, a piece of curved plastic and, on the other, a magnifying lens.

Not much conforms to what the man in the street would regard as "Celtic" — interlaced lines, grotesquely writhing mythical beasts and all that side which contributed to Art Nouveau. What there is of that style is nearly all Irish and very late; several centuries AD, in fact. This was the real Celtic twilight.

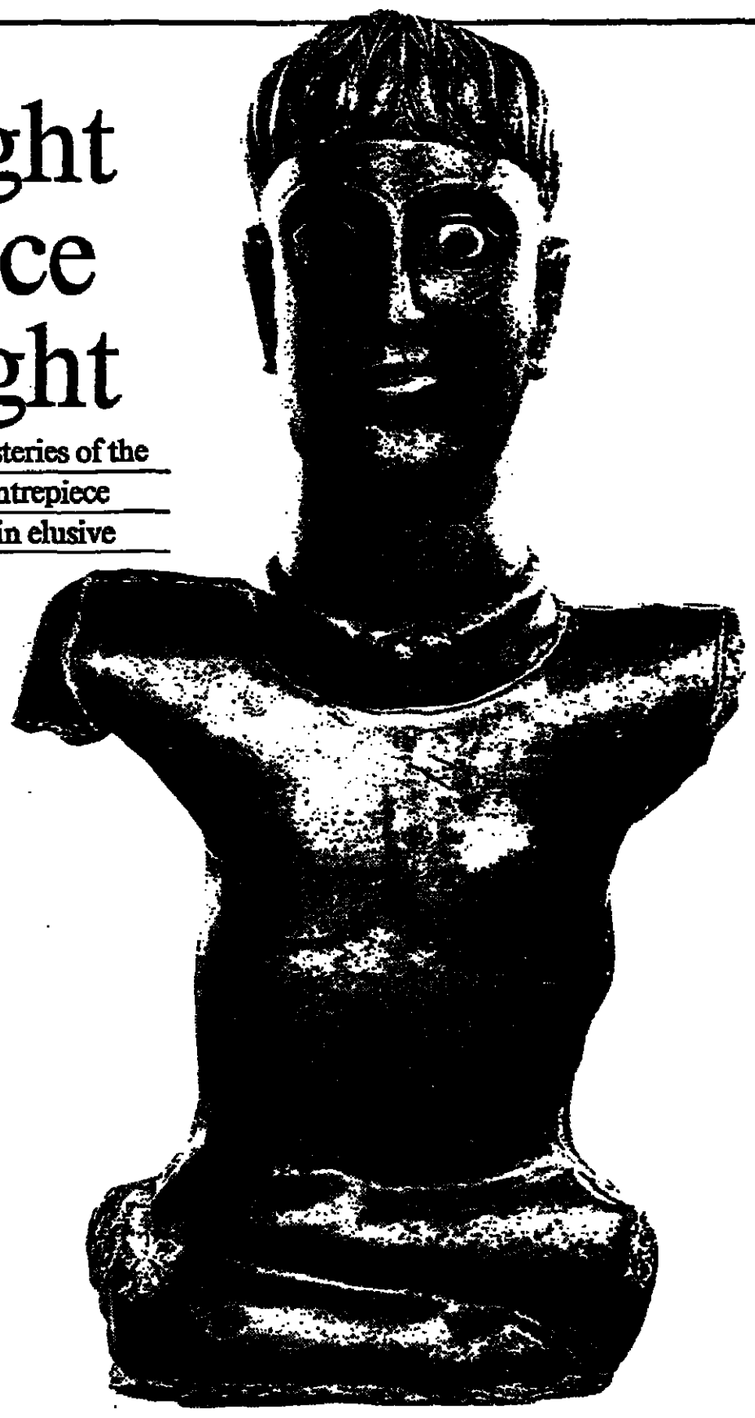
Elsewhere the show is a conglomeration of individual objects of variable quality. Most of the coins are richly patterned with largely unreadable symbols. The pots tend to be dull.

The best statuary in the show is the frieze in terracotta, found at Civitalba, showing the moustachioed Celtic warriors in headlong flight, dropping their booty as they go.

Though the most important manuscripts such as the Book of Kells have not been allowed to travel, there are some fine illuminations. The Battersea Shield and the silver Gundestrup Cauldron are present. The delicate model boat in pure gold, at the heart of the sacred wood, is a replica (the only one in the show), but is thrilling regardless.

If the layout is redolent of show business, it is show business at its best, luring customers in with promises of something rich, unfamiliar and wonderful, and then delivering exactly that.

The Celts: The First Europe, Palazzo Grassi, Campo San Samuele, Venice (041-52 29 975) Daily 9-7, until Dec 8.


Enigma: bronze figurine of a god, (1st century BC-1st century AD) found in France

CRITIC'S CHOICE

In Venice...

ROMANIAN RELICS: Sixty Old Masters, labelled (in some cases more in hope than accuracy) "masterpieces" from the National Museum in Bucharest. The show includes four wrecked in the recent revolution; they are to be restored in Venice at Italian expense.
Capolavori Europei della Romania: Palazzo Ducale, Piazzetta San Marco (41 522 4951). Daily 9-7, until June 2.

DESIGNS ON JAPAN: Two hundred artefacts from Japan are shown less for themselves than to illustrate the evolution of Japanese design motifs in the Edo period, 1603-1868. The show is worth seeking out, buried in the middle of the Doge's Palace.
Arte Giapponese: Palazzo Ducale, Piazzetta San Marco (41 522 4951). Daily 9-4, until April 14.

MILAN REVISED: Guido Canella has been asked to re-design two fairly humdrum districts of modern Milan. The show gives a vivid idea of the changes that he has in mind, with models, drawings and projections.
Guido Canella, Fondazione Masieri, Dorsoduro 3900 (41 962 837). Daily 10-1, 3-6, until April 13.

ROMAN VIEWS: Though most of Piranesi's most famous engraved views were of Rome, he himself was Venetian. Hence this loan show of the Arthur Ross collection from New York, with 130-odd of the Roman engravings, making it one of the most comprehensive in the world.
Le Vedute di Roma di Giovanni Battista Piranesi, Museo Correr, Piazza San Marco (41-522 5625). Daily 9-7, until April 7.

...or London

BANFF EXPERIENCE. Andrew Carnegie, a 40-year-old British Expressionist, has recently spent two months as a resident artist at the Banff Centre in Canada. The work he did there is mostly religious, dark-toned and powerful.
Andrew Carnegie. Alberta House, 1, Mount Street, W1 (071-491 3430), Mon-Fri, 10-5, until April 5.

FORBIDDEN GAME. John Monks's latest series of paintings concerns itself with game, furred or feathered, dead or dying. All in a non-committal but surely disapproving setting. Powerful stuff, brilliantly drawn.
John Monks. Paton Gallery, 2, Langley Court, WC2 (071-379 7854). Tues-Sat, 11-6, until April 6.

CONCERTS

Weill embodied

Now that it is safe to come out of the closet, admirers of Kurt Weill's Broadway shows are finding their enthusiasm in danger of being hijacked by a cult following. Weill scores such as *Street Scene* and *Lady in the Dark* are showing signs of gaining mainstream acceptance, though for the time being, audiences in the opera houses and concert halls are not predominantly the traditional ones.

The courage Weill displayed in 1936 in making a Broadway musical *Johnny Johnson*, with an anti-war scene, has been rewarded, at least in this country, with almost total neglect. The work has yet to be staged in Europe, and the concert version by **Rhoada Keff**, given at the Festival Hall by the **Royal Philharmonic Orchestra** under her baton, was thus a rare opportunity to hear the score in something approaching its complete form.

A few numbers were omitted and in view of the large auditorium, Keff slightly increased the number of strings. Conductor and players sounded completely at home in the idiom, and Steven Tharp was an engaging Johnny, delivering the narrative script prepared by Tony Kushner — which preserves the original's balance between what is seen by the idealism and the naivety of pacificism — with disarming ingenuousness. Judith Rees's classical training made her sound somewhat stiff in the lovely ballad "Come Back to Me", but the rocking, smoochy lilt of "Farewell, Goodbye" was nicely caught. The theme of *Johnny Johnson* is as relevant as ever and there are a handful of other good numbers.

No less true to our time — as an era that has sanctified self-interest — is Weill's *Seven Deadly Sins*, effectively delivered in a spotlit, semi-staged performance by Ute Lemper. With her natural command of the cabaret style, intelligent use of chest voice to heighten emotions and alluring stage presence, she very nearly lives up to her marketing.

A similar concert the previous evening in the Queen Elizabeth Hall, with the **City of London Sinfonia** under **Christopher Bell**, was much less successful. In Weill's *Mahagonny* suite, the authentic pleasure-craved, whisky-sodden, precipice-poised flavour was not caught. Nor was the gritty quality of Milhaud's *Le Boeuf sur le toit*.

The latter piece needs more than a touch of Dadaesque anarchy; this performance was too polite. Wayne Marshall brought his talents and pyrotechnic wizardry to Gershwin's *Rhapsody in Blue*, but he was little more convincing than the members of the CLS in realising either a true swing or a lyrical flow.

The highlight of the evening was the performance of *The Persistence of Memory*, a collaborative venture conceived and executed by Peter Wiegold and students of various ages from Hornchurch, Rainham, London and Colchester, working under the supervision of members of the CLS. The result is delightful.

The title refers to a Salvador Dali painting of "soft watches" and the underlying idea of the work is the counterposing of supple, liquid, Spanish-influenced elements with fixed, hard clock rhythms. The ease with which the young performers set these contrasting elements against each other, in often complex patterns, was not the least of the many fascinating aspects of the enterprise.

BARRY MILLINGTON

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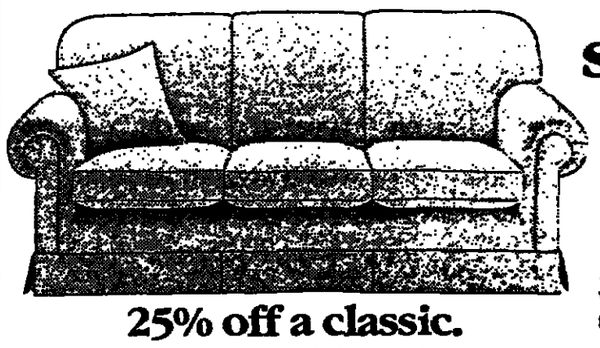
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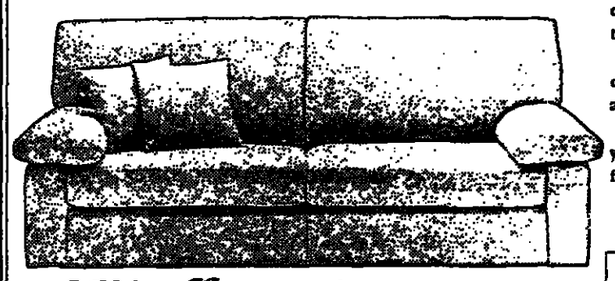
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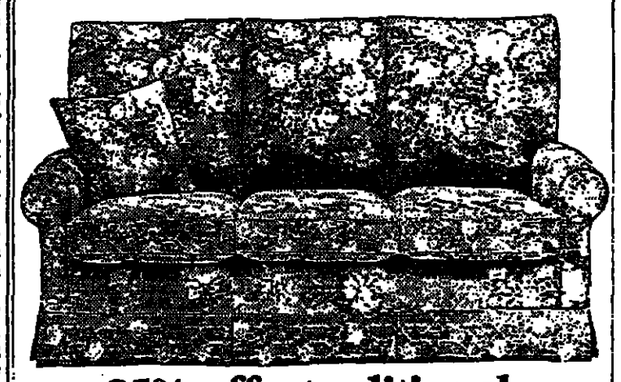
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Grown sunnier with time

DONALD COOPER

Picture of optimism: Bernard Wright (left), Ralph Fiennes, Simon Russell Beale and Paterson Joseph in *Love's Labour's Lost*

THEATRE

Love's Labour's Lost
Barbican

ON WEDNESDAY the RSC re-opened its main London home and, as if to apologise for being away, gave its stage a disarmingly luxuriant look. Timothy O'Brien might have collaborated with Monet and Renoir in creating the lush foliage of reds, yellows, purples and greens that towers above Shakespeare's lords as they loll on cushions enjoying their *déjeuner sur l'herbe* in the dappled light. The relaxed atmosphere, the lazy body-language, the casual late-Victorian costumes serve to predict what the play will prove: these young men are as likely to fulfil their vow to renounce love for bookish pursuits as a Beardsley or Wilde to embrace teetotalism.

So it proves. After a dozen love games and love duets, Longaville, Dumaine, Berowne and the King of Navarre respectively win Maria, Katherine, Rosaline and the Princess of France. True, a black cloud eventually appears in the emotional sky, an offstage death that postpones marriage and consummation; but *Love's Labour's Lost* is still Shakespeare's most playful work, and one of his sunniest. As at Stratford last year, Terry Hands' production is remarkably successful at communicating its colour, warmth and essential optimism.

Indeed, the production has grown with time. Last year, Simon Russell Beale's Navarre was too much the naïve school swot, podgily earnest about transforming his court into an academic "wonder of the world". He still becomes a bit ingratiating when he sympathises with the princess about her father's demise; but by then a robustly excitable lover has emerged out of the roly-poly exterior. He has become more plausibly romantic, while his side-kick, Ralph Fiennes' Berowne, has become more than romantic.

That is a gain, too. Last year Fiennes' performance gradually escalated from fastidious languor to rapturous ardour, creating a prototype for Romeo rather than the sneak preview of Benedick that Amanda Root's pert, brazen Rosaline had to describe as "replete with mocks" and "full of flouts". Helped by rumpled hair and a designer stubble, he is now rougher, more unpredictable, and far more exasperated to find himself succumbing to the enemy, love.

As a result the famous scene in which the swains successively discover each other's love poems has become funnier, though Hands could still linger longer over Fiennes' embarrassment when Berowne's own erotic outpourings are belatedly detected.

From Royle's forthright, Amazonian Princess to David Troughton's sublimely smug Holofernes, the supporting performances remain consistently strong. I must admit to a special weakness for Richard Ridings' Dull, who still sounds like a 78 record played at 33 rpm and moves like a sea elephant on tranquillizers.

But the pick of the pack is John Wood's Don Armado, his oyster-eyes popping with self-contempt, his larynx bursting with woe-begone rage as he contemplates his obsession with the slut Jaquenetta. Love, it seems, is irresistible, wriggle on its hook though we may: the central point of a production that bodes well for the RSC's return to life.

BENEDICT NIGHTINGALE

Wild lovers: Mary Tamm and Julian Armstrong

THEATRE

Why is Here There Everywhere Now?
Riverside Studios

ATTENTIVE readers of this page may recall that only two months ago your critic was required to put on a white wig for a play called *Mozart au Chocolat* and, in the role of Haydn, murmur a few words of praise to the young protégé. Perhaps I have a kindly face. Whatever the explanation, in this curiously named play Chekhov's Madame Arkadina ran off the stage to sit beside me. While I snuggled for protection against my *Independent* colleague, Madame politely asked my name and hoped we could be special friends.

Sure enough, in the second half she and her fellow characters, Nina, Hedda, Miss Julie, Pirandello's stepdaughter, sought out their friends in the audience again and bore us to the stage. "And what do you do?" Trigorin inquired. "I am a critic," I answered. Did a shadow cross Judge Brack's stern face? My companion patted my hand consolingly and the awkward moment passed.

This, it will now be apparent, is no ordinary play, where actors and audience keep their distance just as Aristotle told them to. Nor, regrettably, is it as original a piece as the author, David Gale, would like us to think. He certainly out-pirandellos Pirandello in bringing himself and Hilary Westlake, his director, onto the stage for the final scenes. Together they disorient the characters' sense of identity by confronting them with videos of the rehearsals and reading from the script lines that the characters are supposed to assume are their spontaneous retorts. But as the Chinese boxes get smaller, so does the value of Gale's enterprise. The truly mysterious act of acting stays unexplored; compared to that, a character's dependence on his author is a rather modest discovery.

The first half, however, is extremely funny. A *Miss Julie* compressed into 15 minutes slots into a *Hedda Gabler* over in 10. Hedda is still cramming Lovborg's manuscript into the stove when Mrs Elvsted scampers down to a garden seat where a seagull is waiting. During *Six Characters* the sequence goes into reverse and characters run madly into each other's plays, snatching at bandages, slippers and dead green finches, until they resemble a repertory company smitten with collective schizophrenia.

The cast of eight in this co-production by Lumière & Son and Soho Theatre Company act this clever nonsense with comically convincing urgency. Julian Armstrong plays various wild lovers, Mary Tamm the wilder heroines and, of course, Patricia England, destined to be your critic's special friend. As a surrealist caper the play has a lot to offer; as a deception of identity not much.

JEREMY KINGSTON

OPERA

Don Giovanni
Coliseum

GREY, all grey. The mould from the crumbling masonry of Philip Prowse's swivelling towers has crept into the very bones of English National Opera's latest revival of *Don Giovanni* — if revival is not too optimistic a word for this dingy rerun of Jonathan Miller's original production.

Strength of idea never was uppermost here. The six-year-old show has run on its initially striking and sombre appearance and on the contrastingly fiery chemistry generally sparked between its actors. Now that the good Doctor is not in the wings to act as catalyst, the vacuum at the centre of this production is revealed. Unfortunately, it all coincides with the house debut of Jerzy Maksymiuk in the pit.

Could this be the Maksymiuk who used to steam and hiss his way through the Polish Chamber Orchestra's repertoire, and who made such a mark on the BBC Scottish? With orchestral playing which ignores both the emotional *chiaroscuro* and the finely-tuned nervous pacing of Mozart's score, there seems to be nothing for it but to try and make good the shortfall on stage. If Maksymiuk's conducting prefers to travel as painlessly as possible from A to Z, then Francesca Joseph, directing, answers by activating the full repertoire of stock jokes, matching this by displays of hysteria worthy of a Victorian melodrama.

Maksymiuk's apparent boredom with the human voice and Joseph's disregard for all but the surface of what its music conveys, is particularly hard luck on Jane Eaglen and Kim Begley. They alone, of this bewildered cast, know what they are about and have the vocal means to realise it. Eaglen's Donna Anna retains all the steel of her earlier Elvira with, now, a thrilling dramatic breadth and sweep of line; Begley's Don Ottavio is intense, and intensely musical.

The rest of the cast is at something of a loss. Peter Coleman-Wright, though vocally sound as Don Giovanni, is detached to the point of becoming simply one-dimensional. His Leporello, Arwel Huw Morgan, reduces the role to the mere stereotype of the silly servant from which it grew, and is at times barely audible. Margaret Marshall, making a long-overdue house debut as a full-hearted, full voiced Elvira, is sadly let down in production, as is Margaret Preece's ill-focused and inappropriately worldly-wise Zerlina. John Tranter sings his 175th Commendatore and gives, at last, some sense of ballast to the proceedings.

HILARY FINCH

CINEMA GUIDE

Geoff Brown's assessment of films in London and (where indicated with the symbol ◆) on release across the country.

NEW RELEASES

◆ THE BIG STEAL (15): Mild Australian comedy. Teenagers dominate, but Steve Bisley (an unscrupulous car dealer) gets the best laughs. Director, Nadia Tass.
Cannons: Chelsea (071-352 5096) Haymarket (071-839 1527) Oxford Street (071-636 0310).

◆ DESPERATE HOURS (15): Hideous remake of Joseph Hayes's thriller about a family taken hostage by criminals. Mickey Rourke, Anthony Hopkins; blunderbuss direction by Michael Cimino.
Prince Charles (071-437 8181).

GOLDEN BRAID (15): Paul Cox's fetchingly strange tale of a clock repairer's obsession with a braid of hair, adapted from De Maupassant. Chris Haywood, Gosia Dobrowolska.
Cannon Piccadilly (071-437 3561) Camden Plaza (071-485 2443) Metro (071-437 0757).

◆ KING RALPH (PG): Thin, boring vehicle for the burly John Goodman — a genial American slob who ascends the British throne. Starring Peter O'Toole. Director: David S. Ward.
Cannons: Baker Street (071-935 9772) Fulham Road (071-370 2636) Oxford Street (071-636 0310) Plaza (071-497 9999) Whiteleys (071-792 3303/3324).

MISTER JOHNSON (12): Bruce Beresford's engrossing adaptation of Joyce Cary's novel about culture clashes in colonial Nigeria. Maynard Eziashi lights up the screen as the native clerk caught between two worlds.
Curzon Phoenix (071-240 9661).

CURRENT

AMERICAN FRIENDS (PG): Nineteenth-century romance between an Oxford don (Michael Palin) and a young American (Trini Alvarado). Slender, charming, tasteful.
Odeon Haymarket (071-839 7697).

◆ AWAKENINGS (12): Tender, heart-tugging tale of neurologist Robin Williams stirring the life force in Robert De Niro and other patients stricken with paralysis.
Odeon Leicester Square (071-930 6111).

CYRANO DE BERGERAC (U): Gérard Depardieu masterful as the lovelorn, long-nosed Cyrano; director Jean-Paul Rappeneau transforms Rostand's play into magnificent, swashbuckling cinema.
Chelsea Cinema (071-351 3742) Cannon Shaftesbury Avenue (071-836 8861) Premiere (071-439 4470) Renoir (071-837 8402)

◆ DANCES WITH WOLVES (12): Kevin Costner as the Civil War lieutenant sucked into the Sioux's way of life. Over-reverent, though Costner mounts his directoral debut with aplomb. Winner of seven Oscars.
Cannons: Fulham Road (071-370 2636) Shaftesbury Avenue (071-836 8861) Odeon Marble Arch (071-723 2011) Screen on the Green (071-226 3520) Warner (071-439 0791) Whiteleys (071-792 3303/3324).

◆ FANTASIA (U): Disney's famous visualisation of popular concert classics ricochets between the charming, the clever, and the disastrously cute.
Cannon Oxford Street (071-636 0310).

THE FIELD (12): Richard Harris in Thirties Ireland, fighting for his land. Grandly visualised, but windy drama; from the *My Left Foot* team.
Curzon West End (071-439 4805) Minema (071-235 4225).

◆ THE GODFATHER PART III (15): Brooding finale to Francis Ford Coppola's Mafia saga, handsomely staged but lacking resonance. Al Pacino, Andy Garcia, Talia Shire.
Cannons: Baker Street (071-935 9772) Fulham Road (071-370 2636) Empire (071-497 9999) Notting Hill Coronet (071-727 6705) Whiteleys (071-792 3303/3324).

◆ GOODFELLAS (18): Martin Scorsese's dynamic gangster epic following a New York hoodlum's rise and fall. Starring Ray Liotta, Robert De Niro and Oscar-winner Joe Pesci.
Odeon Mezzanine (071-930 6111) Warner (071-439 0791).

◆ GREEN CARD (12): Marriage of convenience becomes unbearable when slobbish Gérard Depardieu moves in with uptight Andie MacDowell. Likeable New York romantic comedy; director, Peter Weir.
Camden Parkway (071-267 7034) Cannons: Chelsea (071-352 5096) Tottenham Court Road (071-636 6148) Odeons: Kensington (071-602 6644/5) Mezzanine (071-930 6111) Swiss Cottage (071-722 5905) Plaza (071-497 9999) Screen on Baker Street (071-935 2772) Whiteleys (071-792 3303/3324).

◆ THE GRIFTERS (18): Stephen Frears' disjointed version of Jim Thompson's con-artist thriller. John Cusack, Anjelica Huston, Annette Bening, stranded in a glossy limbo.
Cannons: Fulham Road (071-370 2636) Panton Street (071-930 0631) Warner (071-439 0791).

◆ JETSONS: THE MOVIE (U): Sit-com humour in a futuristic setting; a muddled attempt to bring the Sixties cartoon series before today's young audiences. Directors, William Hanna and Joe Barbera.
Cannons: Fulham Road (071-370 2636) Tottenham Court Road (071-636 6148) Whiteleys (071-792 3303/3324).

JU DOU (15): Lust and revenge in a Chinese dye factory. Extraordinary, compelling drama from Zhang Yimou, director of *Red Sorghum*.
ICA Cinema (071-930 3647).

◆ MR AND MRS BRIDGE (PG): Eloquent portrait of an upper middle-class American marriage, from Evan S. Connell's novels. Joanne Woodward, Paul Newman; director, James Ivory.
Curzon Mayfair (071-465 8865).

THE NASTY GIRL (PG): Provocative, funny assault on Germany's Nazi past, with Lena Stolze as the girl uncovering her home town's shady history.
Cannon Piccadilly (071-437 3561) Screen on Baker Street (071-935 2772).

◆ PACIFIC HEIGHTS (15): Evil tenant Michael Keaton makes life hell for landlords Matthew Modine and Melanie Griffith. Strenuous, implausible thriller; director, John Schlesinger.
Cannons: Chelsea (071-352 5096) Haymarket (071-839 1527) Odeon Mezzanine (071-930 6111)

◆ POSTCARDS FROM THE EDGE (15): Caustic Tinseltown comedy, with a few tears, from Carrie Fisher's novel. Meryl Streep as the drug-abused actress; Shirley MacLaine as her mother. Director, Mike Nichols.
Cannon Tottenham Court Road (071-636 6148) Odeons: Kensington (071-602 6644/5) Mezzanine (071-930 6111).

◆ REVERSAL OF FORTUNE (15): Oscar-winner Jeremy Irons as the inscrutable Claus von Bulow, tried for the attempted murder of his wife. Brilliant unravelling of a recent enigma; director, Barbet Schroeder.
Cannon Panton Street (071-930 0631).

◆ THE RUSSIA HOUSE (12): Serpentine spy games with Sean Connery and Michelle Pfeiffer. Muted thriller from John Le Carré's novel; director, Fred Schepisi.
Barbican (071-638 8891) Cannon Tottenham Court Road (071-636 6148) Plaza (071-497 9999).

THEATRE GUIDE

Jeremy Kingston's assessment of current theatre in London
■ House full, returns only
◪ Some seats available
□ Seats at all prices

■ ALL IN THE WRONG: Sam Walters' bright new theatre opera with an amiable 18th-century romp of sexual misunderstandings. Final performances.
Orange Tree, 45 Kew Road, Richmond (081-940 3633). Underground/BR: Richmond. Mon-Sat, 7.45pm, mat Sat, 4pm. Running time: 2hrs 45mins.

□ ANGELS STILL FALLING: The rise and fall of Jack Kerouac, prophet of the Beat Generation, staged with verve at this new theatre space. Good mood-building jazz.
The Bird's Nest, 32 Deptford Church Street, SE8 (081-692 1928). British Rail: Deptford. Underground: New Cross. Wed-Sun, 8pm. Closes April 7.

□ DANCING AT LUGHNASA: Brian Friel's haunting memory-play sets catholic prudery against pagan ecstasy: Alec McCowen and Dublin's Abbey Theatre.
Phoenix, Charing Cross Road, WC2 (071-867 1044). Underground: Tottenham Court Road. Mon-Sat, 8pm, mats Thurs, 3pm, Sat, 4pm. Running time: 2hrs 30mins.

□ DON'T DRESS FOR DINNER: Simon Cadell in average, French-boulevard stuff: mistresses, cover-ups and all that.
Apollo, Shaftesbury Avenue, W1 (071-437 2663). Underground: Piccadilly. Mon-Fri, 8pm, Sat, 8.30pm, mats Wed, 3pm, Sat, 5pm. Running time: 2hrs 15mins.

■ FIVE GUYS NAMED MOE: Marvellous jazzy revue packed with Louis Jordan numbers. An evening of joy.
Lyric, Shaftesbury Avenue, W1 (071-437 3686). Underground: Piccadilly. Mon-Fri, 8pm, Sat, 6pm and 8.45pm. Running time: 1hr 45mins.

□ 42ND STREET: Irresistible tap-dancing novice-to-star musical back in town to give everyone a tonic.
Dominion, Tottenham Court Road, W1 (071-580 9562). Underground: Tottenham Court Road. Mon-Sat, 7.30pm, mats Thurs, Sat, 2.30pm. Running time: 2hrs 30mins. Closes April 20.

□ THE HOMECOMING: Warren Mitchell and others seducing and seduced by Cherie Lunghi in Peter Hall's Pinter revival.
Comedy, Panton Street, W1 (071-867 1045). Underground: Piccadilly Circus. Mon-Sat, 8pm, mats Wed, 3pm, Sat, 5pm. Running time: 2hrs 15mins.

□ JEFFREY BERNARD IS UNWELL: Peter O'Toole back playing the drunk-about-town columnist for a limited run.
Shaftesbury, Shaftesbury Avenue, WC2 (071-379 5399). Underground: Tottenham Court Road. Mon-Fri, 8.30pm, Sat, 5pm and 8.30pm. Running time: 2hrs 10mins. Closes May 25.

◪ THE KING AND I: Susan Hampshire and Koshiro Matsumoto IX in old-fashioned show, packed with a wealth of hit songs.
Sadler's Wells, Rosebery Avenue, London EC1 (071-278 8916). Underground: Angel. Mon-Sat, 7.30pm, mats Wed, Sat, 2.30pm. Running time: 2hrs 50mins. Final week.

□ KIT AND THE WIDOW LAVISHLY MOUNTED!: Urbane cabaret from Kit Hesketh-Harvey and Richard Sisson wittily pointing the finger at politics and culture.
Vaudeville, Strand, WC2 (071-836 9987). Underground: Charing Cross. Mon-Fri, 8pm, Sat, 6pm and 8.40pm. Running time: 2hrs.

■ LULU: The charismatic Joanne Whalley Kilmer as Wedekind's voracious sex goddess littering the salons of Europe with corpses: fine production of a masterwork.
Almeida, Almeida Street, N1 (071-359 4404). Underground: Highbury & Islington. Mon-Sat, 7.30pm, mat Sat, 3.30pm. Running time: 3hrs. Closes April 20.

■ PURGATORY IN INGOLSTADT: Violence and cruelty among school children in pre-Hitler Germany: superb production of Marieluise Fleisser's prescient 1924 play.
Gate, Prince Albert Pub, 11 Pembridge Road, W11 (071-229 0706). Underground: Notting Hill Gate. Mon-Sat, 7.30pm. In repertory with *Pioneers in Ingolstadt*. Final week.

□ THE REHEARSAL: Ian McDiarmid's stylish production (costumes by Jasper Conran) of Anouilh's seduction play.
Garrick, Charing Cross Road, WC2 (071-379 6107). Underground: Leicester Square. Mon-Fri, 7.45pm, Sat, 8pm, mats Tues, 3pm, Sat, 4pm. Running time: 2hrs 30mins.

■ SILLY COW: Ben Elton's awkward collection of one-liners, centred around Dawn French as a ghoulish tabloid journo.
Theatre Royal, Haymarket, SW1 (071-930 8800). Underground: Piccadilly. Mon-Thurs, 8pm, Fri, Sat, 5.30pm and 8.45pm. Running time: 2hrs 10mins.

□ WHAT THE BUTLER SAW: Incest, assault and bisexual junketing preserved in the aspic of Joe Orton's wit. Not quite a top-class production but worth seeing.
Wyndham's, Charing Cross Road, WC2 (071-867 1116). Underground: Leicester Square. Mon-Thurs, 8pm, Fri, Sat, 6pm and 8.40pm. Running time: 2hrs.

LONG RUNNERS: ■ Aspects of Love: Prince of Wales (071-839 5972) ... □ Blood Brothers: Albery (071-867 1115) ... ◪ Buddy: Victoria Palace (071-834 1317) ... ■ Cats: New London (071-405 0072) ... □ Me and My Girl: Adelphi (071-836 7611) ... ■ Les Misérables: Palace (071-434 0909) ... ■ Miss Saigon: Theatre Royal, Drury Lane (071-836 8108) ... □ The Mousetrap: St Martin's (071-836 1443) ... ■ The Phantom of the Opera: Her Majesty's (071-839 2244) ... □ Return to the Forbidden Planet: Cambridge (071-379 5299) ... □ The Rocky Horror Show: Piccadilly (071-867 1118) ... □ Run For Your Wife: Duchess (071-836 8243) ... □ Shirley Valentine: Duke of York's (071-836 5122) ... □ A Slice of Saturday Night: Arts (071-836 2132) ... ■ Starlight Express: Apollo Victoria (071-828 8665) ... □ The Women in Black: Fortune (071-836 2238).

Ticket information on member theatres supplied by Society of West End Theatre

TODAY'S EVENTS

BACH'S ST MATTHEW PASSION: The London Choral Society and London Mozart Players under Jane Glover are at the Festival Hall, and the English Baroque Choir and Orchestra under Leon Lovett are at the Barbican.
Festival Hall, South Bank, London SE1 (071-928 8800), 5.30pm.
Barbican, Silk Street, London EC2 (071-638 8891), 5pm.

BACH'S ST JOHN PASSION: The London Handel Choir and Orchestra under Denys Darlow are at St George's (this particular concert launches the 14th London Handel Festival), and the Priory Festival Choir and London Schubert Orchestra under Bran Brockless are at St Bartholomew's.
St Bartholomew-the-Great, West Smithfield, London EC1 (071-606 1575), 7pm.
St George's Church, Hanover Square, London W1 (no phone), 2.30pm.

HANDEL'S MESSIAH: The Royal Choral Society and the Philharmonia under Laszlo Heltay with harpsichordist John Birch, organist Malcolm Hicks and soloists Carol Smith, Catherine Wyn-Rogers and American tenor Thomas Randle.
Royal Albert Hall, Kensington Gore, London SW7 (071-823 9998), 2.30pm.

CARMEN JONES: Simon Callow directs a cast of 52 in the first London staging of Oscar Hammerstein's Deep-South musical, based on Bizet's opera. Damon Evans and Michael Austin share the lead role of Joe; Wilhelmenia Fernandez and Sharon Benson alternate in the role of Carmen. The production is currently previewing and opens on April 8.
Old Vic, Waterloo Road, London SE1 (071-928 7616), 7.45pm.

SHOW BOAT: Ian Judge directs members of Opera North and the Royal Shakespeare Company in Jerome Kern and Oscar Hammerstein II's musical, showing in London until April 20.
London Palladium, Argyll Street, London W11 (071-437 7373/2055), 7.30pm.

HANSEL AND GRETEL: Alden Lang's "psychological" version of Humperdinck's opera, with a distilled score for chamber ensemble by David Seaman. Tonight's cast of four is Rebecca Evans, Marion McCullough, Morag McLaren and John Hancorn.
Lyric Theatre, King Street, London W6 (071-741 2311), 7.30pm.

GARY NUMAN: Maverick one-time chart regular, Numan has a smaller but no less devoted army of fans these day for his experiments in electropop.
Hammersmith Odeon, Queen Caroline Street, London W6 (071-748 4081), 7.30pm.

GISELLE: Christopher Gable's production for Northern Ballet Theatre has some unusual features in design and action, but maintains the traditional style.
Derngate Theatre, 19/21 Guildhall Road, Northampton (0604 24811), 7.30pm.

FREE EASTER JAZZ FESTIVAL: A four-day event in the Barbican Foyers begins with a strong line-up: pianist Julian Joseph's modern-jazz quartet, avant-garde fusion-punk group Pinski Zoo and pianist Jason Rebello with his fusion outfit.
Barbican (as above), midday-4pm.

MEGADETH: The Los Angeles-spawned thrash-metal experience with its ear-splitting noise and rampaging riffs.
Newcastle City Hall, Newcastle-upon-Tyne (091-261 2606), 7.30pm.

CUADRO FLAMENCO SOLEA SPANISH DANCE COMPANY: British debut of this young company from Andalusia in southern Spain, performing *Gypsy Magic*, a dance-drama mixing traditional Flamenco dancing and guitar rhythms.
Shaw Theatre, 100 Euston Road, London NW1 (071-388 1394), 8pm.

STANLEY SPENCER: THE APOTHEOSIS OF LOVE: Spencer's mystical/erotic art leaves few people unmoved, whether to delight or distaste. In this centenary show he looks more than ever like the greatest British artist this century.
Barbican Art Gallery, Barbican Centre, EC2 (071-588 9023), 10am-6.45pm, closes Monday.

IMAGES OF THE LONDON BLITZ: Some of the photographs taken during the Blitz were the casual inspirations of passers-by, but most of the famous ones were part of a planned propaganda operation, as was Henry Moore's Shelter Sketchbook. The best photographs are shown and given context.
Museum of London, London Wall, London EC2 (071-600 3699), 10am-6pm, closes May 6.

WORD-WATCHING

Answers from page 20

FRESHET
(c) A flood of a river caused by heavy rains or melting snow, from the Old French *freschet*, the diminutive of *freis* fresh: "The freshet in the river was so sudden that cattle were in danger of being drowned."

BONIFACE
(a) An innkeeper, the name of the jovial innkeeper in Farquar's immensely popular play, *The Beaux's Stratagem*, 1707, whence generic for any old innkeeper: "I knew a burly boniface who for many years kept a public house in one of our rural capitals."

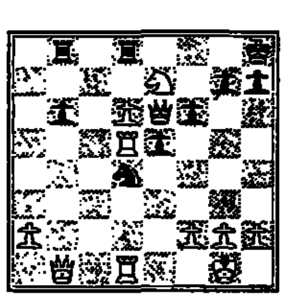
EXSERTILE
(a) Protruding, from the Latin *exserere* to stick out, almost invariably in biological jargon: "The tongue is elongate, forked, and exsertile in this class of reptiles."

LOGY
(a) Dull and heavy in motion or thought, North American, origin obscure: "Ute medicine men put a root in the mouth of an opponent's race horse to make it logy."

WINNING MOVE

By Raymond Keene, Chess Correspondent

This position is from the game Abrosimov — Ambainis, Daugavpils 1975. White to play and win.



Solution: 1 Rxd4! exd4 2 Qxh7+! Kxh7 3 Rh5 mate.

ENTERTAINMENTS

ART GALLERIES

ROYAL ACADEMY OF ARTS. Piccadilly W1. Recorded info 071-439 4996/7 SIR CHRISTOPHER WREN AND THE MAKING OF ST PAUL'S. GREAT IMPRESSIONIST AND OTHER MASTER PAINTINGS FROM THE EMIL G. BUHRLE COLLECTION. Book tickets on 071-240 7200/071-793 1000/071-287 9570 Open daily 10am-6pm (incl Sun).

OPERA & BALLET

COLISEUM 071 836 3161 cc 071 240 5258 cc 1st Call 071 240 7200 (24hr / 7 day) 071 379 4444
ENGLISH NATIONAL OPERA No Perf Ton't Tomor & Thur 7.00 DON GIOVANNI

ROYAL OPERA HOUSE 071 240 1066 / 1911. Standby info 836 6903.S CC 65 amphi seats avail on the day.
THE ROYAL OPERA Tomor 7.00 Die Zauberflöte Mon 7.30 Il Barbiere di Siviglia

THEATRES

ALBERY BO & cc (no fee) 867 1115 cc (no fee)867 1111/379 4444 bkg fee 793 1000/497 9977
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Eves 7.45 Mats Tue & Sat 3.0
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Eves 8pm Mat Thu/Sat 3pm
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Warren Mitchell Nominated "Actor of the Year" Olivier Awards 1991
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42ND ST
"generates enough infectious excitement to charge anyone's batteries" D Exp
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"is the greatest cliché in show business" E.S.
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42ND ST
"tapping into our hearts" The Times
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THE WOMAN IN BLACK
Adapted by Stephen Mallatratt
"A BRILLIANTLY EFFECTIVE SPINE CHILLER" Guardian
"MASTERLY" Exp "CHILLING" Ind
"Take Tranquillisers" T Out
Eves 8 Mats Tue 3 & Sat 4
"HOORAY FOR HORROR" D Mail
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No Perf Good Friday

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Previews from Tuesday
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Tomor 2.00 & 7.30
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Ton't 7.30, tomor 1.30 & 7.30
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"MAGIC" D. Mail
"SUMPTUOUS" Times
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the original play by Murray Burnett and Joan Alison
Evgs 8.00. Sats 6.00 & 8.45
Mats Thurs 3.00

WYNDHAMS 071 867 1116 CC 071 379 4444/793 1000 (No Fee) & 24hr CC 836 2428 (Bkg Fee)
SHEILA GISH / CLIVE FRANCIS
JOSEPH MAHER in
WHAT THE BUTLER SAW
by JOE ORTON
"RIOTOUSLY FUNNY" D Tel
Eves 8.00 Fri & Sats 6.00 & 8.40

CINEMAS

CURZON PHOENIX Phoenix St. off Charing Cross Rd 071 240 9661 Maynard Eziashi, Pierce Brosnan & Edward Woodward in Bruce Beresford's MISTER JOHNSON (12) Progs at 1.55 (not Sun) 4.10, 6.20 & 8.30

CURZON WEST END Shaftesbury Avenue W1 071 439 4805. Richard Harris John Hurt Tom Berenger in THE FIELD (12) Progs at 1.30 (not Sun) 3.50 6.10 8.30

CURZON MAYFAIR Curzon St 071 465 8865 Paul Newman Joanne Woodward in Merchant Ivory's MR AND MRS BRIDGE (PG) Progs at 1.00 (not Sun) 3.30 6.00 8.40

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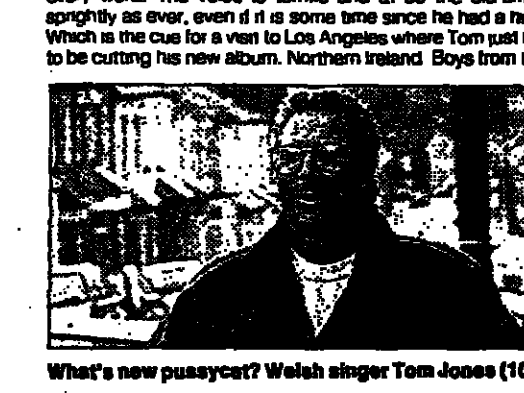
مكتبة العين

هكذا عن الأصل

BBC 1

6.00 Ceefax 7.00 News, regional news and weather
7.15 Children's BBC, introduced by Simon Parkin and Andi Peters, begins with Sleeping Beauty. Cartoon version 7.20 Beauty and the Beast. Cartoon 7.50 Quick Draw McGraw Cartoon
8.00 News, regional news and weather 8.15 Touché Turtle. Cartoon (r) 8.20 Lassie. Animated adventures of the resourceful canine (r) 8.45 Ovide. Fun with the duckbilled platypus (r)
9.00 News, *regional news and weather 9.05 Popeye and Son. Cartoon* (r) 9.25 Why Don't You...? Ideas for teenagers at a loose end
10.00 Edd the Duck's Guide to Hong Kong. 10.05 Playdays (r) 10.25 The Family Ness. Cartoon (r) 10.35 The Jetsons. Cartoon
11.00 What's So Good About It? Bishop Peter Firth leads a Good Friday meditation from Wells Cathedral, Somerset
12.00 Children of Courage. Esther Rantzen introduces children featured in last year's *Children in Need* evening (r)
12.40 The Cheetah's Grandfather. The story of 73-year-old Desmond Farraday, who founded a cheetah sanctuary at his home in the Transvaal *(r) 12.55 Regional news and weather*
1.00 One O'Clock News and weather
1.15 Neighbours. (Ceefax) 1.40 Tom and Jerry in four cartoons (r)
2.10 Classic Wildlife: 20th Century Fox. Sir David Attenborough presents the award-winning documentary that used infra-red film technology to dispel many myths about the urban fox in Britain (r)
2.50 Film: Grand Prix (1966) James Garner, Yves Montand, Eva Marie Saint and Brian Bedford star in the definitive motor-racing movie set amid the racing action and behind-the-scenes chicanery of the Monaco Grand Prix. Heavy-going for non-enthusiasts. Directed by John Frankenheimer (Ceefax)
5.35 Neighbours (r). (Ceefax)
6.00 Six O'Clock News with Chris Lowe. Weather
6.15 Regional News Magazines
6.20 Film: D.A.R.Y.L. (1985) *Sentimental sci-fi caper with Barret Oliver as the ten-year-old Data-Analysing-Robot-Youth-Lifeform adopted* by a Florida couple When the requisite nasty scientists arrive to take him away, a life or death struggle ensues to prevent him from becoming a scientific freak With Mary Beth Hurt and Michael McKean Directed by Simon Wincer (Ceefax)
8.00 A Song For Europe. Terry Wogan hosts the contest in which *viewers vote for one of six songs to represent the United Kingdom* in this year's Eurovision Song Contest in Rome on May 4 (simultaneous broadcast with Radio 2)
8.45 News with Martyn Lewis (Ceefax) Regional news and weather
9.05 Boys From The Bush: State and the Commonwealth. Uneven comedy-drama about west London ex-pats living in Melbourne. (Ceefax) Northern Ireland. The Show
9.55 A Song For Europe. Terry Wogan reveals the song that will represent the nation in this year's Eurovision Song Contest
10.10 Omnibus Special: Tom Jones.
● CHOICE. Tom Jones may wish that the punters would judge him by his voice and not his sex appeal but if he will keep baring his hairy chest at them what can he expect? The most entertaining passage in an anodyne profile concerns the girls who throw their underwear at him during a performance, to be anointed on their idol's sweaty brow One Stephen Bayley tries to erect a pretentious theory about this, only to be shot to pieces with a choice eight-letter word from your favourite debunker, Jonathan *Ross. Omnibus promises a "critical appraisal" and fails to give* one. It is plaudits all the way, whether from Lord Lew Grade, Ross himself or the ghost of Elvis Presley Not that Tom doesn't deserve every word. The voice is terrific and at 50 the old-timer is as sprightly as ever, even if it is some time since he had a hit record. Which is the cue for a visit to Los Angeles where Tom just happens to be cutting his new album. Northern Ireland Boys from the Bush

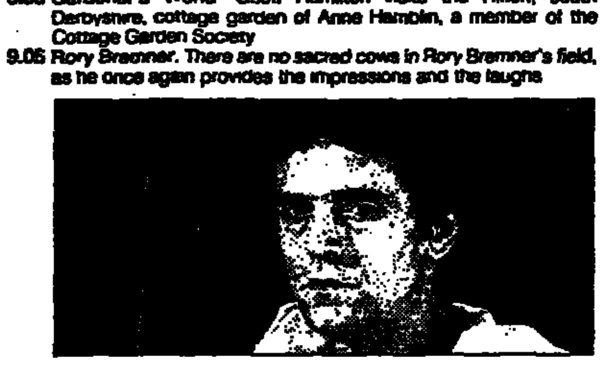


What's new pussycat? Welsh singer Tom Jones (10.10pm)

11.05 That Week In Jerusalem. Juliet Stevenson explores the role of *Mary Magdalene*
11.20 Film: Valdez is Coming (1970). Impressive western with Burt Lancaster in the title role of a Mexican-American deputy sheriff tricked by a powerful ranch owner into shooting dead an innocent black labourer Discovering the rancher's villainy, he declares a private war in order to avenge the dead man's family With Susan Clark and Jon Cypher Based on the novel by Elmore Leonard and directed by Edwin Sherin Northern Ireland Omnibus *Special* 12.10am-1.40 Film. Moving Target 12.50am Weather

BBC 2

6.45 Open University: Science — Volcanic Iceland Ends at 7 10.
8.00 News 8.15 Westminster. A round-up of business from both Houses
8.30 Northwards A small fleet of steam boats sail from the Tyne to the Cumbrian coast in 1983 (r)
9.00 First Sight: Going . . . Going . . . Art thieves' hunger for loot knows no bounds — not even religious relics in situ, or fireplaces in historic buildings are safe from art-lusting felons *First Sight* investigates the efforts being made by international police to curb the success of these art thieves (r)
9.30 Film: *The Bible . . . In the Beginning* (1966) Christopher Fry's adaptation of the first 22 chapters of Genesis spanning Creation to the lesson of Abraham and Isaac Director John Huston gives himself the best acting part as Noah but otherwise it is slow going, despite the contributions of Richard Harris, George C Scott, Ava Gardner and Peter O'Toole.
12.15 Yo Yo Ma and Emanuel Ax Play Beethoven The first of a three-part series in which cellist Ma and pianist Ax perform a full programme of Beethoven sonatas in European cities The second and fourth sonatas are given in Edinburgh
1.20 The Brollys. Animated entertainment (r)
1.35 Sport on Friday Helen Rollason introduces the swimming world cup from Sheffield, Liam Brady and Garth Crooks cover the week's football both on home fields and the important European championship qualifying games, and there is a preview of the 137th Oxford and Cambridge boat race
4.10 Holiday 91. Victoria Studd and Eammon Holmes sample local *hospitality in central France, caravanning in Northumberland, and go huntin' n' surfin' in Kenya (r)* (Ceefax)
4.40 Top Gear. William Woollard fondly recalls Raymond Loewy's unique car designs (r)
5.10 Arena: Lifepulse. The Startled Insects perform a work that is a musical celebration of the colourful, dramatic saga that is life.
6.40 Late Again. Highlights from the week's *Late Show*
7.10 What the Papers Say
7.25 Rest Eternal, Light Eternal: A Concert of Music for Good Friday The medieval splendour of Hereford Cathedral lends rich timbre to the London Orchestra's performance of Haydn's Symphony No.49, *La Passione, and Samuel Barber's Adagio for Strings* Choral colour is added to the evening's proceedings when the Cathedral Choir, aided by the orchestra, and soprano Caroline Ashton, sing John Rutter's Requiem Introduced by Debbie Thrower
8.35 Gardener's World Geoff Hamilton visits the Hilton, south Derbyshire, cottage garden of Anne Hamblin, a member of the Cottage Garden Society
9.05 Rory Bremner. *There are no sacred cows in Rory Bremner's field, as he once again provides the impressions and the laughs*



Love is the key to Paradise: Oscar-winner Jeremy Irons (9.35pm)

9.35 Everyman Special: The Dream. With fortuitous planning, a chance to see Oscar winner Jeremy Irons in his first television role for years He plays a man who dreams he visits the Garden of *Eden. However, by offering what he believes is worldly sagacity,* he causes its demise and in the aftermath realises that love is the only key to regaining Paradise Based on a Dostoevsky short story and directed by Norman Stone
10.05 The American Civil War. A look at the new documentary series starting tomorrow
10.10 Film: House of Games (1987) A female psychiatrist (Lindsay *Crouse) becomes increasingly involved in the realm of her* compulsive gambler patient (Joe Mantegna), a world where gambling tactics display amazing similarities to those of her trade, and one in which reality is hard to distinguish from fantasy David Mamet's dialogue is on the mark, as is his directorial debut in this odd but fascinating film
11.50 Hostage. Brian Keenan Aid concert pooling the talents of international stars, including *Donovan and Midge Ure of Ultravox*
12.20am Weather
12.25am Film: Tall Stories: Uma Pedro No Bolso (1990) A film displaying all the elegant ambivalence of a Portuguese *Death in Venice.* While staying at his aunt's seaside hotel, a young boy, Miguel, strikes up a friendship with a village bad boy, Joao Joao severely disrupts Miguel's innocent pleasure when he recaptures the affections of a holidaying doctor Starring *Bruno Leite* Directed by Joaquim Pinto Ends at 2.00

ITV

6.00 TV-am
9.25 Lucky Ladders Game show 9.55 Disney Cartoon (r)
10 10 Film. The Last Flight of Noah's Ark (1980) Noah (Elliott Gould) is the pilot of a rickety old B29 aeroplane, which can hardly leave the ground, let alone ferry a prim young evangelist (Genevieve Bujold), a host of animals, and some stowaways all the way to the South Pacific Likeable Disney adventure, directed by Charles Jarrott
12.00 A Gift Wrapped In Thorns. *What does Good Friday mean to* Christians today? The Rev Clive Calver, general director of the Evangelical Alliance, ponders this question in a world of fast-changing values
12.30 News with Nicholas Owen Weather
12.40 Jumble. Game show hosted by Jeff Stevenson Today's guests are Michael Groth and Ellie Laine 1 10 Home and Away
1.40 Film: Sinbad and the Eye of the Tiger (1977) Arabian action as Sinbad sets about winning the hand of a princess, but not before he attends to the spell that has been cast over her brother *Lacklustre sequel to The Golden Voyage of Sinbad*, starring Patrick Wayne, Taryn Power and Jane Seymour Directed by Sam Wanamaker
3.45 Soap Down Under Barry Norman with an untypically reverential look at the Australian soap opera phenomenon, travelling down under to discover the magic ingredients behind the success of *Neighbours* and *Home and Away* (r)
5 10 Home and Away (r)
5.40 News with Nicholas Owen Weather 5.55 LWT News and weather
6.10 The Day With the help of Sportsmobility, a young boy suffering from spina bifida is able to ski
6.15 The World's Greatest Stunts. Hollywood stars let their stuntmen take centre stage With Christopher Reeve, Michael Douglas, Tom Selleck and a host of other movie actors, some of whom actually perform their own stunts (r)
7 00 The $64,000 Question presented by Bob Monkhouse
7.30 Coronation Street (Oracle)
8.00 Skyrunners Former singer Suzi Quatro and Julian Critchley MP, take to the air against actress Gemma Craven and Austin Mitchell, MP, in a helicopter race to find five parts to a puzzle and unravel its meaning Andrew O'Connor is the race commentator
8.55 Easter Surprise Surprise. *Cilla Black hosts a special Easter* edition of the show that makes dreams come true (Oracle)
9.55 News with Nicholas Owen. Weather 10.10 LWT News and weather
10.15 South Bank Show Special: Kiri Te Kanawa.
● CHOICE A two-hour special from the *South Bank Show* offers much glorious singing and an accessible portrait of the most *famous living New Zealander given mainly in her own words to an* admiring Melvyn Bragg A chronological treatment is fleshed out with performance clips and a "year-in-the-life-of" coverage of her recent work There are tributes from Dame Joan Sutherland Sir Georg Solti and Sir Colin Davis As often with such ventures, we are taken so far and no further and would love to ask supplementaries During the Eighties Dame Kiri suffered a complete breakdown in health and confidence which took her five years to overcome She blames the pressures of work particularly after 600 million television viewers saw her singing at the wedding of the Prince of Wales Yet surely one of the prerogatives of a world-class opera star is to be able to say no? Followed by The Day
12.15am Film: Five Days One Summer (1982) Lambert Wilson's youthful looks almost win out over Sean Connery's ruggedly attractive maturity in the tale of a mountain holiday which goes awry when Connery's young lover looks too longingly in Wilson's direction With Betsy Brantley Directed by Fred Zinnemann
2.15 Rock For Clear Water Documentary about a group of earnest young campaigners against water pollution who travel along the Volga River from Gorki to Astrakhan, near the Caspian Sea
3.15 Raw Power Rock videos
4.05 CinemAttractions. A look at the best of the movies that are currently on the US circuit
4.35 Ski Tips from Andy Steggall and Liz Wickham
5.05 Ski World. Where to go, what to wear, and the best equipment to use
5.30 ITN Morning News with Anne Leuchars Ends at 6.00

A year in an opera star's life: Dame Kiri Te Kanawa (10.15pm)

CHANNEL 4

6.00 Art of Landscape
7.00 Bright Sparks Sparky the robot explores the world of science (r) 7.30 Starcom Cartoon
8.00 Oprah Winfrey Show. The Ninja Turtles are introduced to an audience of pre-teen fans 8.50 Dai Mouse to the Rescue read by David Jason 9 00 Heathcliff Feline cartoon adventures
9 15 Countdown Masters 9.25 The Rehearsal (r)
10.55 Film: Flight of the Doves (1971) Whimsical adventure with Ron Moody as a wicked uncle and master of disguise trying to stop young runaways Jack Wild and Helen Raye from inheriting a fortune Directed by Ralph Nelson 12.50 The Frog Prince
1.00 Sesame Street
2.00 Film: Sammy Going South (1963) Picaresque adventures of a ten-year-old boy (Fergus McClelland), orphaned in Port Said, hitch-hiking to South Africa to find his only living relative Directed by Alexander Mackendrick
4 15 Countdown The grand final of the words and numbers game
5.00 The Footsteps Echo: Decisions. *The series which looks at* religious themes from the Easter story today reflects on the making of decisions With music from Joy Division (Teletext)
5.30 Sumo. Japanese wrestling series
6.00 Happy Days. Classic American comedy set in Fifties Milwaukee
6.30 Tonight With Jonathan Ross. The guest is comedian Frankie Howerd
7.00 News summary and weather followed by Secrets of the Mangrove. Ben Cropp's award-winning natural history film
7.50 First Reaccoon. Hank Wangford previews the Festival of Country *Music, which begins tomorrow at Wembley Followed by Weather*
8.00 Brookside (Teletext)
8.30 A Chip Off the Block of Paradise Controversial film-maker Derek Jarman talks to Rosemary Harthill about his latest film *The Garden* and living with the burden of being HIV positive (r)
9.00 Cheers.
● CHOICE The 200th edition of the Boston bar sitcom is celebrated with a chat show in which the writers and cast strung out in a line like the targets in a shooting gallery answer questions in front of a studio audience The host John McLaughlin is little more penetrating than Terry Wogan and tends to settle for asking the actors how near they are to the characters they play The answers, though, are often as funny as the show itself almost as if (perish the thought) the whole affair had been scripted A generous selection of clips from nine years of *Cheers* underlines the qualities of the programme, its superb writing and casting and ability to switch from quick-fire repartee to broad slapstick with such facility that the audience can rarely see the join There is also *a reminder that the format has been elastic enough to* accommodate such guests as John Cleese and Senator Gary Hart
10 00 Roseanne. Wise-cracking comedy series starring Roseanne Barr
10.30 Whose Line Is It Anyway? Clive Anderson hosts another improvisation session from New York His guests are Mark Cohen, Greg Proops Mike McShane and London regular John Sessions
11.00 Jonathan Ross Presents For One Week Only Pedro Almodovar Ross interviews Spanish film-maker Almodovar, director of *Tie Me Up, Tie Me Down!* and Oscar-nominated *Women on the Verge of a Nervous Breakdown*, whose films often feature sex, drugs women and a hilarious sense of humour

Playing with fire: Glenn Ford and Rita Hayworth (midnight)

12.00 Film: Gilda (1946, b/w).
● CHOICE Rita Hayworth tossing back her hair and provocatively peeling off an elbow-length black glove as she sings "Put the Blame on Mame, Boys" is an indelible image of Forties Hollywood and *Gilda* is one of the decade's most cherished thrillers We are in *film noir* country, with its shadowy landscape of cynicism and betrayal brilliantly echoed in Rudolph Maté's moody camerawork In her finest screen role Hayworth plays a torch singer who marries *a vicious Buenos Aires casino owner (George Macready) and* discovers that his manager (Glenn Ford) is her former lover She resumes the affair and finds herself not so much rekindling an old flame as playing with fire The film failed to please contemporary critics, but audiences were more discerning The director was Charles Vidor, a Hollywood journeyman who in a career of 30 years never made anything remotely as good So much for the *auteur* theory
2.00am Sumo See 5.30 Ends at 2.30

ITV VARIATIONS

ANGLIA
As London except: 12 15am Video View 12.45 Film: That'll Be The Day 2.25 Film: Stardust 4.30 America's Top Ten 5.00-5.30 Bang Bang!

BORDER
As London except: 1.40pm Film: Cactus Jack 3.15-3.45 The Young Doctors 5.05 Last Words with Mr Wainwright 6.30-7 00 Take the High Road 12.20am Film The Corn is Green 2.05 The Young Riders 2.55 Night Beat 4.00 Space 4.50 Night Flight 5.20-5.30 Bruce Dickinson.

CENTRAL
As London except: 3.45pm Film: Escape 5.10-5.40 My Secret Identity 6.00 Home and Away 6.30-7.00 Boat Race — Making a Team 12.15am Prisoner Cell Block H 1.15 Film. The Scarlet and the Black 3.50 Special Effects 5.00-5.30 Central Jobfinder '91.

GRAMPIAN
As London except: 12.45pm Home and Away 1.15 Cover Story 1.45 Sons and Daughters 2.15 Scottish Women 2.45 Jumble 3 15-3.45 The Young Doctors 6.00 North Tonight 6.30-7 00 Top Club 12.20am Film: The Corn is Green 2.05 The Young *Riders 2.55 Night Beat 4.00 Space 4.55* Night Flight 5.20-5.30 Bruce Dickinson.

GRANADA
As London except: 12.45pm The Spectacular World of Guinness Records 1 10 Home *and Away 1 40 A Country Practice 2 10 New* Candid Camera 2.40 Cartoon 2.45 Jumble 3.15-3.45 The Young Doctors 5 10-5.40 Bratpack 6.00 Home and Away 6.35-7 00 Second Division Special 12.20am Film The Corn is Green 2.05 The Young Riders 2.55 Night Beat 4.00 Space 4.55 Night Flight 5.20-5.30 Bruce Dickinson.

HTV WEST
As London except: 6.00 HTV News 6.05 Telethon Update 6.35-7 00 The Cat in the Hat 12 15am Film Lust for a Vampire 2.10 CinemAttractions 2.40 Film: The Man Who Could Cheat Death 4.05 America's Top Ten 4.35 Ray Bradbury Theatre 5.05-5.30 Jobs

HTV WALES
As HTV West except: 6.00pm Wales at Six 6.05-7.00 Further To My Application

SCOTTISH
As London except: 12.40pm Home and Away 1 10 Blockbusters 1.40 A Country Practice 2.45 Jumble 3 15-3.45 Sons and *Daughters 6.00 Scotland Today 6.30-7 00* Take the High Road 8.00 Scotsport Extra Time 8.25-8.55 Taxi 12 15am Film. The Virgin Soldiers 2.00 America's Top Ten 2.30 *Film* Nana 4.05 On the Live Side 5.05-5.30 Jobfinder.

TSW
As London except 5 10pm-5.40 Gardens For All 12.20am Film The Corn is Green 2.05 *The Young Riders 2.55 Night Beat 4.00* Space 4.55 Night Flight 5.20-5.30 Bruce Dickinson

TVS
As London except: 3.45pm Sons and Daughters 4.15-5 10 World of Disney 6.00-6.15 Coast to Coast 12 15 Wolf 1 10 Midge *Ure 2.05 The Young Riders 3.00 Raw Power* 4.00 Phenomena 4.10 Sally Jessy Raphael 5.00-5.30 Channon & Ball Video Show

TYNE TEES
As London except: 1.40pm A Country Practice 2.40-3.45 All Islands to Starboard 6.00-6.10 Cartoon Time 12.20am Film The Corn is Green 2.05 The Young Riders 2.55 Night Beat 4.00 Space 4.55 Night Flight 5.20-5.30 Bruce Dickinson

ULSTER
As London except: 6.00pm Six Tonight 6.30-7.00 Sportscast 10 15 Kelly 11.45 Circuit Report 12.20am Film: The Corn is Green 2.05 The Young Riders 2.55 Night *Beat 4.00 Space 4.55 Night Flight 5.20-5.30* Bruce Dickinson.

YORKSHIRE
As London except: 6.05pm-6 15 The Making of Perfect Scoundrels 12.25am Film. The Adventurers 3.20 Film Never Too Young to Rock 5.10-5.30 Anne Murray

S4C
Starts: 6.00am The Art of Landscape 6.30 On Daily 9.25 Sesame Street 10.25 Film. Andy Hardy's Blonde Trouble* 12.20 Pobol Y Cwm 12.40 Slot Meithrin 1.00 Countdown 1.30 Film: It's A Date* 3.30 Ovid Gwener Greglish 4.30 Slot 23 5.15 Brookside 5.45 Pieton 6.00 Newyddion 6 10 Dawn 6.40 Pobol Y Cwm 7 00 Dinas 7.30 Llygad Yr *Haul 8.00 Myfi Yw 9 10 Cerdd Mawr Y Byd* 10.00 Cheers 10.30 Whose Line is it Anyway? 11 00 Jonathan Ross 12.00 Gilda* 2.00-2.30 Sumo

RTE 1
Starts: 12.30pm Arts Express 1.00 News 1.45 Crusade in Europe 2.05 GP 3.00 Celebration of the Lord's Passion 4 15 News followed by Film: Eric 6.00 News 6 15 The Space in the Heart of the Lotus 7 05 Far City 7.35 Bless Me Father 8.00 Winning Streak 8.30 My Riviera 9.00 News 9 15 Film Mutiny on the Bounty 12.20 News 12.25 Close.

NETWORK 2
Starts: 2.30pm Bosco 3.00 The Den 6.25 *Home and Away 6.55 Nuacht 7 00 Gorta* 7.30 Coronation Street 8.00 News followed by Dempsey and Makepeace 9.00 Roseanne 9.25 News followed by The Gospel According to St Matthew 11.45 Circuit of Ireland Rally 12.15am Close.

SATELLITE

SKY ONE
● Via the Astra and Marcopolo satellites. 6.00am The DJ Kat Show 8.35 Mrs Pepperpot 8.45 Panel Pot Pourri 10.00 Here's Lucy 10.30 The Young Doctors 11.00 The Bold and the Beautiful 11.30 The Young and the Restless 12.30pm Sale of the *Century 1 00 True Confessions 1.30* Another World 2.20 Santa Barbara 2 45 Wife of the Week 3 15 Bewitched 3.45 The DJ Kat Show 5.00 Punky Brewster 5.30 McHale's Navy 6.00 Family Ties 6.30 Sale of the Century 7 00 Love at First Sight 7.30 Growing Pains 8.00 Riptide 9.00 Hunter 10.00 WWF Wrestling Challenge 11.00 The Deadly Ernest Horror Show Fer-de-Lance (1974) 1.00am Pages from Skytext

SKY NEWS
● Via the Astra and Marcopolo satellites. News on the hour
5.00am Sunrise 9.00 Sunrise 9.30 Newsline 10.30 Those Were the Days 11 00 International Business Report 11.30 Daytime 12.30pm NBC Today 1 30 NBC Today 2.30 CBS News 3.30 CBS News 4.30 Those Were the Days 5 00 Live at Five 6 30 Newsline 8.30 Those Were the Days 10.30 Newsline 11 30 NBC News 12.30am CBS News 1.30 NBC News 2.30 CBS News 3.30 NBC News 4.30 Those Were the Days

SKY MOVIES
● Via the Astra satellite.
6.00am Showcase, incl at 7.40 Entertain-*ment Tonight*
10.00 The Birch Interval (1976) A young girl goes to live with relatives in Pennsylvania's Amish country
12.00 The Titanic (1953) A big-screen all star version of the tragedy that befell the "unsinkable" ocean liner
2.00pm Farewell to the King (1988) Former US army sergeant Nick Nolte becomes king to a Borneo tribe
4.00 Scooby-Doo and the Ghoul School Cartoon antics with the cowardly canine
5.35 The First Easter Bunny *Animated tale of a toy rabbit who discovers that he has* been chosen to be the first Easter bunny
6.00 The Woo Woo Kid (1987) The true story of a 15-year-old boy who married two much older women Starring Patrick Dempsey and Beverly D'Angelo
7 40 Entertainment Tonight
8.00 Throw Momma from the Train (1987) Denny DeVito and Billy Crystal agree to exchange murders to rid themselves of their respective burdens
10.00 Jack's Back (1988) A doctor (James Spader) is accused of committing Ripper style murders in modern-day Los Angeles
11.40 Red Heat (1989) Two cops one Soviet (Arnold Schwarzenegger), the other American (James Belushi) pursue a Russian drug dealer in Chicago
1.20am The Thirteenth Floor (1988) Lisa Hensley is haunted by memories of her father carrying out a brutal gangland *execution*
2.50 Wise Guys (1986) Double-crossing hoods Danny DeVito and Joe Piscopo are hired by their boss to kill each other
4.20 The Telephone (1987) An unemployed actress (Whoopi Goldberg) spends her life on the phone Ends at 5.40

EUROSPORT
● Via the Astra satellite.
6.00am International Business Report 5.30 European Business Today 6.00 DJ Kat 7 30 Eurobics 8.00 Inside Track Motor Racing 9.30 US Open Table Tennis 10.30 Eurobics 11 00 Equestrianism 12.00 Australian Masters Golf 2.00pm Davis Cup Tennis *Yugoslavia v Czechoslovakia 6.00 Wrestling* 9.30 Grid Iron World League of American Football 10 00 Super Funboard World Cup 11 00 Ice Hockey World Championships The Netherlands v Norway 12.30am Eurosport News 1.00 Ford Ski Report

SCREENSPORT
● Via the Astra and Marcopolo satellites. 7 00am Supercross Orlando Florida 8.00 Action Auto 8.30 European PGA Volvo Tour Portuguese Open 9.30 Hippodrome French *Racing 10.00 Stop-USWA Wrestling* 11 00 Ice Hockey 1 00pm Dunhill Cup Golf 2.00 NHRA Drag Racing from Supernationals 3.00 US Pro Ski Tour Giant Slalom 3.45 Spain Spain Sport 4.00 Argentine Football 5.00 Slop-Mud and Monsters 6.00 Update. NBA Basketball 8.00 Go 9.00 Live US PGA The Players Championship 11.00 US Pro Boxing 12.30am Ice Hockey NHL 1991 2.30 Pro Box 4.30 World Snooker Classics 6.30 Spain Spain Sport

MTV
● Via the Astra satellite.
Twenty-four hours of rock and pop

LIFESTYLE
● Via the Astra satellite.
10.00am Great American Gameshows 11.15 Coffee Break 11.20 Everyday Workout 11 50 Slim Cooking 12 15pm Sally Jessy Raphael 1 05 Star Time 1 10 Search for Tomorrow 1 35 The Edge of Night 2.00 Divorce Court 2.25 Lifestyle Plus 2.35 Country Ways 3 05 The Arts Room 3.55 Tea Break 4.05 Phyllis 4.35 Great American Gameshows 6.00 The Sell-a-Vision Shopping Programme 8.00 Close 10.00 The Sell-a-Vision Shopping Programme 12.00 Satellite Jukebox

THE MOVIE CHANNEL
● Via the Marcopolo satellite.
2.20pm Star Crash (1979) Tongue-in-cheek science-fiction drama
4.00 The Movie Show
4.25 CHOMPS (1979) A young inventor creates a canine security system
6.00 Rocky 4 (1985) Boxer Sylvester Stallone takes on the might of Soviet fighting machine Dolph Lundgren
7 35 The Movie Show
8.00 Who's Harry Crumb? (1989) Accident-prone private detective John Candy dons a series of disguises to solve a kidnapping case
10 00 Willow (1988) Val Kilmer and Joanne Whalley-Kilmer star in the epic fantasy adventure
12 10am Midnight Run (1988) Bounty hunter Robert De Niro is pursued by the FBI, the Mob and a persistent rival when he attempts to return bail-jumping embezzler Charles Grodin to Los Angeles
2 15 Everything You Ever Wanted to Know About Sex . . But Were Afraid to Ask (1972) Woody Allen's hilarious multi-episodic comedy Ends at 3.50

THE SPORTS CHANNEL
● Via the Marcopolo satellite.
2.00pm Inside Track 3.30 Surfing Magazine 4.00 The IBM ATP Tennis Magazine 5 00 Waterskiing 6 00 Rodeo 7 00 Inside the US PGA Tour 7 30 Motor World 8.00 Live Matchroom Snooker 10.30 Red Line 11.30 Matchroom League Snooker

THE POWER STATION
● Via the Marcopolo satellite.
7.00am Twenty-one hours of rock and pop

RADIO 3

6.35-6.55am Open University (FM only) Modern Art — Peasants
6.55 Weather. News Headlines
7.00 Morning Concert: Tchaikovsky (Overture, Romeo and Juliet); Bellini (Lieto del dolce incanto, I Capuleti)
7.30 News
7.35 Morning Concert (cont): C.P.E. Bach (Symphony in B flat, Wq 182/2), Vaughan Williams *(Tuba Concerto)*; Chopin (Introduction and Polonaise brillante in C); Wagner (Faust Overture)
8.30 News
8.35 Composers of the Week: Tchaikovsky (String Quartet No 1 in D, Op 11; Suite No 4 in G, Op 61, Mozartiana)
9.35-9.40pm Mozart in His Time: A Vienna Benefit Concert: Mozart (Symphony No 35 in D, Haffner, *Movements 1-3*: Academy of Ancient Music under Hogwood. Aria, Se il padre perdei, Idomeneo; Dresden Staatskapelle under Bohm, Piano Concerto No 13 in C, K 415 English Baroque Soloists under Gardiner; Scena, *Misera! dove son — Ah non son io che parlo*: Vienna CO under Fischer; Concertante and Rondo, Serenade in D, K 320: Dresden Staatskapelle under Harnoncourt, Piano Concerto No 5 in D, K 175/382 EBS under Gardiner, Recitative and Aria, In un istante — Parto m'affretto, Lucio Silla: SO and Chorus of the National Opera of Belgium under Cambreling; Variations on Salve tu, Domine and Unser dummer Pöbel meint: Linda Nicholson, fortepiano, Recitative and Rondo, Mia speranza adorata — Ah, non sai qual pena: Vienna CO under Fischer; Symphony No 35 in D, finale: Academy of Ancient Music under Hogwood) 12 15pm A Mannheim Quartet. *The* English Concert performs J.C. Bach's Quintet in C, Op 11 No 1 12.35 Mozart — Man *and Musician*: A portrait by the composers Michael Berkeley and Nigel Osborne, with writers Paul Bailey and Paul Griffiths. 1 00 News 1.05 "To My Dear Friend Haydn": Amadeus Quartet performs Haydn (Quartet in B minor, Op 64 No 2); Mozart (Quartet in E flat, K 428). 2.05 A View of Vienna: Frank Whitford re-creates life in Vienna as Mozart would have known it, and introduces readings from Johann Pezzl's *Sketch of Vienna* 2.35 Mozart's Operatic World. Extracts from the stage works of Mozart's contemporaries, including *operas by Salieri, Gluck and* Hasse 4.15 Soundings: Mozart in His Town . . . Michael Oliver visits this year's International Mozart Congress in Salzburg 5.15 Wind Diversions. Divertimenti and Serenades for trio, sextet and octet by Haydn, Mozart and Krommer 6.15 Alimentary Correspondence. Fritz Spiegl chews over Mozart's appetite for foreign food. 7.00 News 7.05 Mozart, Mesmer and Medicine. Dr Roy Porter examines 18th century views of illness and health. 7.35 Mozart in Lent: Stuttgart RSO under Neville Marriner, with Margaret Marshall, Ann Murray and Inga Nielsen, sopranos, Hans-Peter Blochwitz and Aldo Baldin, tenors, perform Mozart's Die Schuldigkeit des ersten Gebots (The Obligation to Keep the First Commandment), the first part of a sacred Singspiel, *composed by the 11-year-old* Mozart. 8.55 Mozart the Theologian: Colin Dunton on the Swiss theologian Karl Barth's respect for Mozart's music 9.05 Michael Haydn (Motet, Diffusa est gratia. Györ Girls Choir, Györ PO under Miklos Szabo), Mozart (Grabmusik, Passionate Cantata Stuttgart RSO and Chorus under Marriner, with Ann Murray, soprano, Stephen Varcoe, bass)
9.40 Membra Jesu Nostri. Illustra faciem tuam The last of seven Holy Week cantatas by Buxtehude, in a Lutheran devotional context
10.00 The Marriage of Heaven and Hell Professor Marilyn Butler introduces a dramatisation by Claire Randall of William *Blake's prose masterpiece.* With Nicky Henson as Blake, and Tara Dominick as Angel
10.45 Britten (Suite for harp, Op 83)
11.00 Verses for Mourning. Zelenka (Fifth and Sixth Lamentations: The Chandos Baroque Players)
11.30 News
11.35 Composers of the Week: Respighi (r)
12.35am Close

RADIO 4

(s) Stereo on FM
5.55am Shipping Forecast 6.00 News Briefing, Weather 6.10 *Farming Today* 6.25 Prayer for the Day 6.30 Today, incl 6.30, 7.00, 7.30, 8.00, 8.30 News 6.55, 7.55 Weather 8.58 Weather
9.00 News
9.05 Desert Island Discs: Sue Lawley's castaway is Marti Caine (s) (r)
9.45 Feedback (new series)
10.00 News, Sword in the Soul. A *meditation for Good Friday*, written by Rowan Williams, with music by Francis Grier (s)
10.45 Five Stories for Holy Week: Conversations with an Angel, by Sara Maitland Helen Lederer reads "Bad Friday" (s)
11.00 News; In Their Element (new series)
● CHOICE: Music, both *orchestral* (Britten and Holst) and mammalian (whales and dolphins) is the flux that producer Rosemary Hart uses to fuse the words of her celebrated company, who have had much more to do with water than drinking it, although Robin Knox-Johnston thinks there is no better cup of tea than the one made from water collected from his sails. The other contributors to this marvellous aquatic *compendium* include Hollywood's wettest star, Esther Williams, who reveals little of significance behind the *secret of her dry hair*, and Robert Ballard, discoverer of the Titanic's grave, who makes our flesh creep with the eeriness of it all (s)
11.47 The Black Heart In the second of four programmes, Paul Hyland continues his journey up the River Congo, inspired by Joseph Conrad's *Heart of Darkness*
12.00 News, You and Yours John Howard reports on why bank holidays may be bad for you and now Britain compares with the rest of Europe in the holiday league table
12.25pm The Food Programme: Derek Cooper attends a vegetarian wedding 12.55 Weather
1.00 The World at One
1.40 The Archers (r) 1.55 Shipping
2.00 News, Woman's Hour Today's *programme from Newcastle is* devoted to children's literature Children talk about the appeal of comics Angela Carter and Wendy Savage recall their favourite childhood books, and a look at the revival of Noddy, a Fifties success story
3.00 News, Classic Serial Fair Stood the Wind for France, by H.E. Bates (final part) (s) (r)
4.00 News
4.05 Tea Junction: Topical discussion show in which Patrick Hannan and his guests take a sceptical look at the week's events
4.30 Kaleidoscope Natalie Wheen talks to James King, biographer of the poet and painter, William Blake (s)
5.00 PM 5.50 Shipping Forecast 5.55 Weather
6.00 Six O'Clock News, Financial Report
6.30 Going Places How will the Spanish cities of Seville and Barcelona cope with the respective transport challenges posed by Expo '92 and the 1992 Olympics?
7.00 News 7.05 The Archers
7.20 Pick of the Week (s)
8.05 Any Questions? Jonathan Dimbleby is joined in Bodelwyddan, Wales, by David Hunt, MP, Welsh secretary Joan Ruddock, MP, Labour party transport *spokeswoman, journalist* Alan Watkins, Alex Carlile MP, Liberal Democrat spokesman on legal affairs
8.50 Stop Press
9.15 Kaleidoscope The Seven Ages of Quincy Jones (s) (r)
9.45 Letter from America by Alistair Cooke 9 59 Weather
10.00 The World Tonight (s)
10.45 A Book at Bedtime The Journal of a Disappointed Man, by W N.P Barbellion (4 of 8) (s)
11.00 Des Lynam — the Man and His Music (s)
11.25 Love Unknown A meditation in words and music for Good Friday (s)
12.00-12.30am News incl 12.20 Weather 12.33 Shipping

FREQUENCIES Radio 1: 1053kHz/285m,1089kHz/275m;FM-97 6-99 8 Radio 2: 693kHz/433m;909kHz/330m;FM-88-90.2 Radio 3: 1215kHz/ 247m, FM-90-92.4, Radio 4: 198kHz/1515m;FM-92 4-94 6 Radio 5: 693kHz/433m, 909kHz/330m LBC: 1152kHz/261m, FM 97 3 Capital: 1548kHz/194m, FM 95.8, GLR: 1458kHz/206m, FM 94.9, World Service, MW 648kHz/463m.

RADIO 1

FM Stereo and MW 5.00am Gary King 6.30 Philip Schofield 9.00 Simon Bates 12.30pm Newsbeat 12.45 Gary Davies 3.00 Dave Lee Travis in the Afternoon 5.30 News 91 6.00 Round Table 7 30 The Essential Selection 10.00 The Friday Rock Show 12.00-2.00am Andy Peebles Soul Train

RADIO 2

FM Stereo 4.00am Alex Lester The Early Show 6.00 David Allan 8.05 David Jacobs 9.30 Ken Bruce 11 00 Desmond Carrington 1 00pm Jan Harvey 2.00 Alan Titchmarsh's Floral Holland 4.00 Shirley Bassey in Concert Recorded at the Hotel Piccadilly Manchester (r) 5.00 Glen Campbell Special 6.00 Patrick Moore 7 00 Larry Adler says Happy Birthday Carnegie Hall 8.00 A Song for Europe (with BBC1) 8.45 Friday Night is Music Night 10 00 Martin Kelner 12.05am Jazz Parade 12.35 Len Jackson with Night Ride 3.00-4.00 A Little Night Music

RADIO 5

6.00am World Service Newsdesk 6.30 Morning Edition, incl 6.30, 7 00, 7 30 8.00, 8.30 News Sport 9.00 Take Five 10.25 1 2, 3, 4, 5 10.40 The Family Business incl 11.00 Sport 12.00 News Sport 12.30pm Make a Secret *Mike (r) 1.00 Sport 1.05 European Concert Mozart's Concerto for flute and harp 2.00 Sport* 2.05 1 2, 3 4 5 (broadcast at 10.25am) 2.30 World Service Meridian Books 3.00 Sport 3.05 Outlook 3.30 Football Extra Barclay's League 4 40 Five Aside 7 20 The BFG The first of an eight-part adaptation of Roald Dahl's classic children's story 7 35 Thunderbirds (r) 8.00 Afro-Pop 9.00 *Mike's Secret Mike An alternative comedy espionage panel game* 9.30 Rave incl 10.00 Sport 11.00 Sport 11 06 World Service Wordpower 11.25 From the Weeklies 11.38 The World Today 11.53 Words of Faith 11.58-12.05am Sport

WORLD SERVICE

All times in GMT 5.00am Morgenmagazin 5.35 News in German Headlines in English and French 5.47 Press Review 5 52 Good Friday Music 5.56 Weather and Travel News 6.00 Newsdesk 6.30 Londres Matin 6.59 Weather 7 00 World News 7 09 24 Hours News Summary 7 30 King Sugar 8.00 World News 8 09 Words of Faith 8 15 Music Review 9.00 World News 9 15 Global Concerns 9.30 First Person 9.35 Sports Roundup 9 45 Seven Seas 10.00 News Summary 10.01 Focus on Faith 10.30 Frank Sinatra 11 00 Newsdesk 11 30 Mid Japanese 11 59 Travel News 12.00 World News 12.09pm News About Britain 12 15 King Sugar 12.45 Sports Roundup 1 00 World News 24 Hours 2.00 World News Outlook 2.30 *Off the Shelf Holy Week Stories 2 45 The People of South Africa* 3.00 World News 3 15 Music Review 4.00 World News 4.09 News About Britain 4 15 BBC English 4.30 Heute Aktuell 5.00 World News 5.09 Commentary 5 15 The World Today 5.30 Londres Soir 6 14 News Headlines in English 6 15 BBC English 6.30 Heute Aktuell 7 00 German features 7 54 News in German 8.00 World News 8.09 *The World Today 8.25 Words* of Faith 8.30 Science in Action 9 00 News Summary 9 01 Sports Roundup 9 15 A Taste of Soul 9.30 People and Politics 10.00 Newshour 11 00 World News 11 10 Book Choice 11 15 Worldbrief 11 30 Multitrack 12.00 Newsdesk 12.30am From the Weeklies 12 45 Recording of the Week 1 00 News Summary 1 01 Outlook 1 25 Financial News 1.30 Short Story 1.45 Here's Humph! 2.00 Newsdesk 2.30 People and Politics 3.00 World News 3.09 News About Britain 3 15 Network UK 3.30 The Vintage Chart Show 3.59 Weather 4.00 Newsdesk 4.30 The World Today 4.45 News and Press Review in German

COMPILED BY PETER DEAR AND GILLIAN MAXEY
TV CHOICE PETER WAYMARK/RADIO CHOICE PETER DAVALLE

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UNICEF

The United Nations Children's Fund

Maundy warning: the Queen, accompanied by the Very Reverend Michael Mayne, the Dean of Westminster, passes a guard of yeomen warders as she leaves Westminster Abbey after yesterday's Maundy Thursday service. Buckingham Palace had advised the 129 pensioners who received Maundy money from the Queen during the service not to be swindled by dealers trying to buy the coins, and security at the abbey was strict to deter any unscrupulous dealers from approaching them (Alice Thomson writes). Each year the Queen gives the specially minted royal bounty money to pensioners at the service as a relic of the tradition of the sovereign distributing alms to the poor. Each pensioner got two leather pouches, a red one with coins of the realm, and a white one with the Maundy money. Spink, the London coin dealers, advises that in the year of issue a set of Maundy money generally sells for about £75 and thereafter for about £45. A gold set from 1953 fetched £5,200 at auction in 1985. Traditionally, the Queen dispenses a sum of pennies correlated to her age. Yesterday the amount was 65 pence in 1p, 2p, 3p and 4p denominations to 65 men, one for each year of her age, and 64 women. The absent pensioner, Blanche Simmonds, aged 86, from Lewisham, south London, had a hospital appointment which she could not postpone. Originally the monarch was obliged to wash the feet of the poor, recalling Christ's washing the feet of his disciples, and the Queen would give a discarded dress to the poorest pensioner. King John was the first monarch to give a sum of money to the poor in 1213, according to the royal almonry office. Medieval documents state: "The King fed 1,000 poor men, paying £4.13s.9d for food, 9s.4d for fish." These days, 65p barely buys a loaf.

Political sketch

Wishing MPs a very dull Easter

"YOU collect," says Sir Walter Bagehot, the 19th-century constitutionalist, "by the votes of freeholders, more than 600 gentlemen; and the question is, what are they to do?"

Yesterday saw David Atkinson (C, Bournemouth E) on "the Middle East" and Dale Campbell-Savours (Lab; Workington) on HMG's policy towards the Kurds. The House of Commons was attempting to solve the world's problems entirely on its own, without even the government.

For it was Maundy Thursday. Parliament was winding up for its Easter recess after some short "adjournment" debates: vehicles for backbenchers to air their views in the sympathetic (but noncommital) presence of a minister, a Deputy Speaker, and almost nobody else.

As Mr Gary Waller (C Keighley) held forth on "the Gatt textile negotiations" and Sir Michael McNair-Wilson (C Newbury) tuned his fiddle for a solo performance on "transplantations and the supply of human organs", MPs packed their bags and pondered their choice of holiday reading.

What should a busy MP, PM, or even ex-PM, take?

The Times recommended Anthony Trollope to Mr Major on Monday. His *The Prime Minister*, would be balm, said our leading article, to the weary soul. Maybe. But my own research suggests that it is his predecessor who might re-read some Trollope.

John Major would find encouragement in Bagehot. *The Oxford Book of Essays* has chosen a propitious moment to publish his essay on *Dull Government*. I can do no better than quote . . .

"Dullness in matters of government," says Bagehot, "is a good sign and not a bad one. Dullness in parliamentary government is a test of its excellence. Doubtless, on great questions . . . there is an opportunity for noble eloquence. But these very circumstances are the signs, perhaps, of national calamity . . . Happy is the country which is at peace within its borders — yet stupid is the country when the opposition is without a cry."

"We are now arrived," he continues, "at the business statesman . . . troubled with complex and difficult topics . . . which require the exercise of a laborious intellect, and a discriminating understanding. We have not gained in liveliness by change".

But cheer up, Mr Major, for Bagehot believes the populace is on your side. "The English people have never yet forgotten what some nations have scarcely ever remembered — that politics are a kind of business . . . Steady labour and dull material — wrinkles on the forehead and figures on the tongue — these are the English admiration.

"You cannot have an era *per annum* . . . Dullness is our line. Woe to the English people if they ever forget that, all through their history, heavy topics and tedious talents have awakened the admiration and engrossed the time of their parliament and their country."

My holiday reading for Mr Major's predecessor is harsh, but Trollope at its best. He speaks in his autobiography of the ambience created by Disraeli in his novels.

"The glory has ever been a glory of pasteboard, and the wealth has been a wealth of tinsel. The wit has been the wit of hairdressers, and the enterprise has been the enterprise of mountebanks.

"Through it all," there was "a feeling of stage properties, a smell of hair-oil, an aspect of buhl, a remembrance of tailors, and that pricking of the conscience which must be the general accompaniment of paste diamonds."

Ouch!

MATTHEW PARRIS

Japanese achieve land of rising company director

By NIGEL HAWKES, SCIENCE EDITOR

A JAPANESE laboratory has accomplished a world first by successfully levitating its director, using superconducting materials.

The demonstration at a recent international conference was designed to draw attention to the improvements being made in the development of superconductors, materials that are expected to have many applications in engineering and medicine.

Shoji Tanaka, director of the superconductivity research laboratory at the International Superconductivity Technical Centre in Tokyo, hovered half-an-inch off the ground on a flat plate to demonstrate his laboratory's success in making superconducting materials that can carry much greater weights.

Last year the laboratory levitated a goldfish in a bowl, but lifting Dr Tanaka was a much more substantial achievement. Together with the plate on which he stood, he weighed more than 250lbs.

The secret lies in the methods used to produce the superconducting materials, which are mixtures of yttrium, barium and copper oxide, known as YBCO. The Tokyo laboratory has developed a method, called melt-quenching, which improves the load-bearing abilities of the material.

Under the plate on which Dr Tanaka stood were 250 pellets of melt-quenched YBCO. They were cooled to temperatures a few degrees above absolute zero, and suspended over a magnet.

The reason why the levitation works is that any movement of the platform induces electrical currents in the superconductors, creating a field which opposes the movement causing it. Because there is no electrical resistance, the currents are very large, and effectively prevent all movement. As a result the platform remains still, hovering with an air space between it and the magnet below.

The purpose of the work was to try to develop magnetic bearings for machines which would run for ever without lubrication. Dr Francis Moon, of Cornell university, New York State, who describes the development in this week's issue of *Nature*, says that one application might be in long-life bearings for spacecraft destined for the Moon and Mars.

Leading article, page 13

Firm fails as holiday starts

Continued from page 1

leading school travel firms. Although the schools business is potentially lucrative, margins are tight, with some companies making little more than £1 a head profit on a business that is confined to a few weeks a year.

Traffic for West Country holiday centres was at a crawl on the region's motorway links with London and the Midlands last night and much of the M1 northbound carriageway was a mass of slow moving traffic. Cars were already at a standstill by early yesterday afternoon on both the M4 and the M5, and a four-mile jam quickly developed at the Severn bridge with vehicles queuing to cross into Wales.

Congestion is expected to be worse this Easter with families opting for breaks in Britain due to the recession and the terrorist threat to airlines. Those heading abroad faced delays at airports because of tighter security since the Gulf war.

Police also fear that the recession will cause serious traffic jams this weekend as motorists unable to afford having their cars serviced go out for Easter on what will probably be their first long journey of the year.

British Rail has engineering work causing disruption in the West Midlands, and Waterloo station in central London will be closed all weekend. Timetables may be altered this weekend.

Airports will be busy, but are not expected to be overcrowded, with only about 200,000 people likely to want to venture abroad.

Saddam stole oil cash

Continued from page 1

erting money from the treasury was common practice. Often it was used to pay personal bribes to visiting African statesmen, whose votes were needed in this or that international gathering. They were handed suitcases of cash. Ironically, Iraqi law stipulates the death penalty for accepting bribes, and it is illegal to have a foreign bank account.

Published international and Iraqi accounts also reveal a discrepancy of $60 billion between income and spending.

Mr Hashim, a member of the Committee for Democratic Iraq, said he was speaking out because the Iraqi people had been brutalised for two decades, subjugated to terror and were helpless in the face of genocide. "I urge every civilised nation to succour the people of Iraq by every means possible."

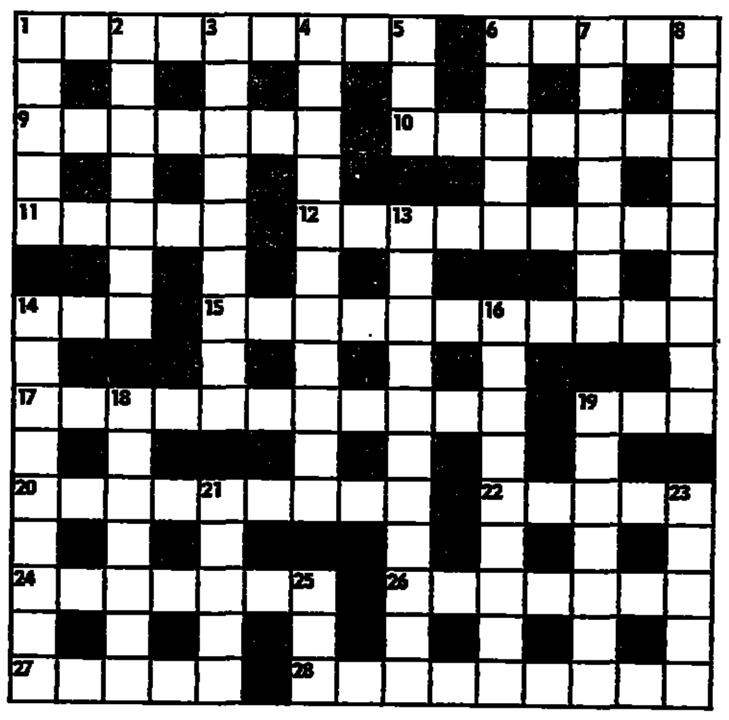
TOMORROW IN THE TIMES

Rudolf Nureyev slides on to one of two sofas that used to belong to Maria Callas and talks to Charles Bremner about his nomadic life and the wearing effects of yet another farewell tour, three decades after he fled the Kirov ballet into the arms of the waiting West

The latest gift to come the way of English Heritage's architectural study collection was left on the doorstep wrapped in a Marks & Spencer bag. Sarah Jane Checkland looks over more than 2,000 items in a largely unknown collection that is literally priceless

A very English event, the 138th Boat Race, is the focus of another big Easter sporting programme

THE TIMES CROSSWORD PUZZLE NO 18,566



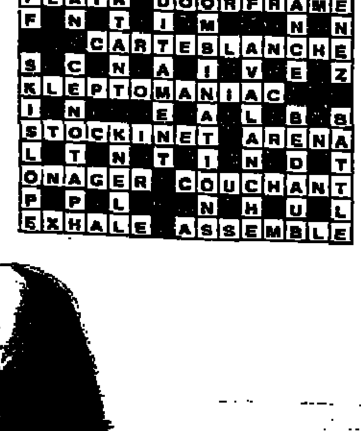
ACROSS

1 Outlook for religious groups accepting little change (9).
6 Open in a foreign capital (5).
9 Bats with one's cricket side in state capital (7).
10 She requires a special habitat (7).
11 Part of plough used in allotment (5).
12 Statesman quite close to Victoria (9).
14 Blue leading in shot and discus (3).
15 Polish radio operator takes call inside royal house (11).
17 First person home with money? (5-6).
19 Single ply (3).
20 Available for a little lucre? (4, 5).
22 In short, a dwelling that's not half useless (5).
24 As an imaginary animal, it's old hat (7).
26 Their drawn appearance reflects constant pressure (7).
27 School initially goes into red (5).
28 Holder of post, with character to fight for it (6-3).

DOWN

1 Equipment for drying shoes (5).
2 Veteran not surviving reshuffle (3,4).
3 Had law and order groups, however, in Rome (9).
4 Emperor in East has uniform on (11).
5 Decline place in carriage (3).
6 Shadow one of the Romans from Tiber region (5).
7 Smaller version of tiger shark? (7).
8 Main plans modified for flat-dweller (9).
13 Long suit can be a big help to the defence (11).
14 Newspaperman's the one who takes action plot (3-6).
16 Maximum latitude here for PM before vote's announced (5,4).
18 Wrong-doing, pinching a piece of jewellery (7).
19 Regret saying something wounding that may be repeated by players (7).
21 Close ally is keen to hold on (5).
23 Elizabeth's favourite old kingdom (5).
25 Information I leaked? Nothing in it! (3).

Solution to Puzzle No 18,565



Concise crossword, page 15

WORD-WATCHING

By Philip Howard

FRESHET
a. A first-year salmon
b. A breed of goat
c. A sudden overflow

BONIFACE
a. An innkeeper
b. A philanthropist
c. A ruddy complexion

EXSERTILE
a. Protruding
b. A former slave
c. Useless

LOGY
a. Dull, heavy, lethargic
b. A primitive logarithm
c. A dog sledge

Answers on page 18

AA ROADWATCH

For the latest AA traffic and roadworks information, 24 hours a day, dial 0836 401 followed by the appropriate code.

London & SE traffic, roadworks

C. London (within N & S Circs.)	731
M-ways/roads M4-M1	732
M-ways/roads M1-Dartford T.	733
M-ways/roads Dartford T-M23	734
M-ways/roads M23-M4	735
M25 London Orbital only	736

National traffic and roundworks

National motorways	737
West Country	738
Wales	739
Midlands	740
East Anglia	741
North-west England	742
North-east England	743
Scotland	744
Northern Ireland	745

AA Roadwatch is charged at 33p per minute (cheap rate) and 44p per minute at all other times.

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WEATHER

Parts of central and eastern England will start off rather cloudy but much of the cloud will break up during the morning and the afternoon will see some sunshine. Most of western England, Wales, Northern Ireland and Scotland will have a dry day with sunny periods. Northern Scotland is likely to see some rain towards the evening. Temperatures close to average. Outlook: mostly dry, some rain in north

ABROAD

MIDDAY: t=thunder; d=drizzle; fg=fog; s=sun; sl=sleet; sn=snow; f=fair; c=cloud; r=rain

	C	F			C	F	
Ajaccio	16	61	f	Majorca	17	63	s
Akrotiri	21	70	s	Malaga	17	63	f
Alex'dria	28	82	f	Malta	18	64	f
Algiers	18	64	s	Melb'me	21	70	s
Amst'dm	10	50	f	Mexico C*	28	82	s
Athens	19	66	s	Miami*	28	82	f
Bahrain	22	72	s	Milan	10	50	f
Barbads*	28	82	f	Montreal*	9	48	c
Barcelna	16	61	s	Moscow	0	32	sn
Belgrade	5	41	r	Munich	4	39	sn
Berlin	3	37	c	Nairobi	27	81	f
Bermuda*	18	64	t	Naples	12	54	r
Biarritz	12	54	c	N Delhi	29	84	s
Borde'x	15	59	f	N York*	11	52	c
Brussels	10	50	f	Nice	15	59	s
Budapst	6	43	f	Oslo	12	54	s
B Aires*	20	68	c	Paris	11	52	s
Cairo	32	90	s	Peking	-1	30	sn
Cape Tn	30	86	s	Prague	1	34	c
C'blanca	17	63	f	Reykjavik	5	41	r
Chicago*	19	66	c	Rhodes	19	66	s
Ch'church	24	75	s	Rio de J	22	72	c
Cologne	10	50	s	Riyadh	25	77	s
C'phagn	7	45	f	Rome	15	59	f
Corfu	20	68	s	Salzburg	4	39	c
Dublin	10	50	f	S F'risco*	12	54	c
Dubrovnik	20	68	c	Santiago*	27	81	s
Faro	19	66	s	S Paulo*	17	63	r
Florence	12	54	f	Seoul	11	52	s
Frankfurt	9	48	s	Sing'por	33	91	f
Funchal	14	57	c	St'kholm	4	39	f
Geneva	8	46	s	Strasb'rg	10	50	s
Gibraltar	16	61	f	Sydney	25	77	s
Helsinki	2	36	f	Tangier	18	64	f
Hong K	21	70	r	Tel Aviv	25	77	s
Innsbrck	5	41	f	Tenerife	18	64	f
Istanbul	11	52	f	Tokyo	9	48	r
Jeddah	32	90	s	Toronto*	9	48	t
Jo'burg*	18	64	c	Tunis	18	64	c
Karachi	37	99	s	Valencia	18	64	s
L Palmas	22	72	c	Vanc'ver*	8	46	s
Le Tquet	11	52	f	Venice	11	52	s
Lisbon	17	63	s	Vienna	6	43	c
Locarno	13	55	s	Warsaw	3	37	c
L Angels*	11	52	s	Wash'ton*	18	64	f
Luxembg	9	48	s	Wel'nton	19	66	c
Luxor	37	99	s	Zurich	6	43	f
Madrid	15	59	f				

* denotes figures are latest available

TOURIST RATES

	Bank Buys	Bank Sells
Australia $	2.325	2.175
Austria Sch	21.70	20.30
Belgium Fr	64.05	60.05
Canada $	2.125	1.975
Denmark Kr	11.91	11.21
Finland Mkk	7.39	6.94
France Fr	10.49	9.84
Germany Dm	3.10	2.90
Greece Dr	335	315
Hong Kong $	14.15	13.15
Ireland Pt	1.16	1.09
Italy Lira	2315	2175
Japan Yen	258	242
Netherlands Gld	3.495	3.285
Norway Kr	12.05	11.35
Portugal Esc	270.25	254.25
South Africa Rd	5.35	4.85
Spain Pts	192	179
Sweden Kr	11.19	10.51
Switzerland Fr	2.64	2.47
Turkey Lira	6950	6150
USA $	1.825	1.705
Yugoslavia Dnr	38.00	26.00

Rates for small denomination bank only as supplied by Barclays Bank PLC. Different rates apply to travellers' cheques.

GLASGOW

Wednesday: Temp: max 6am to 6pm, 11C (52F); min 6pm to 6am, 3C (37F). Rain: 24hr to 6pm, nil. Sun: 24hr to 6pm, 9.5 hr.

AROUND BRITAIN

	Sun hrs	Rain in	Max C	Max F	
Aberdeen	0.1	-	9	48	bright
Anglesey	0.2	-	10	50	cloudy
Aviemore	-	-	10	50	cloudy
Bognor Regis	11.1	-	13	55	sunny
Bournemouth	10.8	-	15	59	sunny
Brighton	10.3	-	13	55	sunny
Buxton	1.0	-	10	50	sunny
Clacton	9.6	-	9	48	sunny
Cromer	10.4	-	10	50	sunny
Douglas	0.5	-	10	50	cloudy
Eskdalemuir	1.5	-	10	50	bright
Folkestone	7.7	-	10	50	sunny
Hastings	10.3	-	12	54	sunny
Hunstanton	10.7	-	9	48	sunny
Kinloss	-	-	8	46	cloudy
Leeds	-	-	12	54	cloudy
Lerwick	0.1	-	8	46	cloudy
Littlehampton	11.0	-	13	55	sunny
London	10.1	-	14	57	sunny
Lowestoft	10.5	-	10	50	sunny
Minehead	2.4	-	11	52	bright
Morecambe	-	-	12	54	dull
Nottingham	8.0	-	12	54	sunny
Penzance	0.4	-	12	54	cloudy
Poole	10.5	-	14	57	sunny
Saunton Snd	-	.01	11	52	dull
Scarborough	2.8	-	8	46	bright
Scilly Isles	0.4	-	10	50	bright
Shanklin	10.3	-	11	52	sunny
Southend	10.6	-	10	50	sunny
Southsea	10.8	-	14	57	sunny
St. Ives	-	-	9	48	cloudy
Stornoway	-	-	9	48	cloudy
Swanage	7.9	-	10	50	sunny
Teignmouth	6.1	-	11	52	sunny
Tenby	-	-	11	52	cloudy

These are Wednesday's figures

MANCHESTER

Yesterday: Temp: max 6am to 6pm, 11C (52F); min 6pm to 6am, 4C (39F). Rain: 24hr to 6pm, nil. Sun: 24hr to 6pm, 0.8 hr.

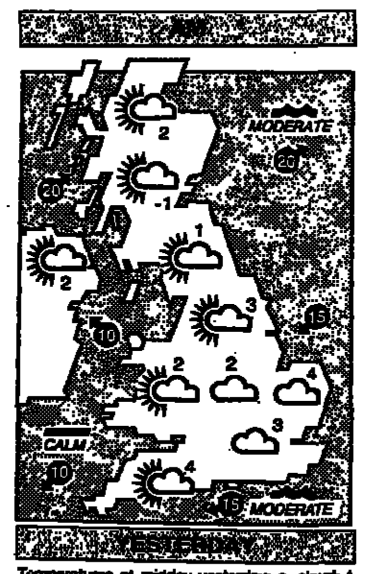
TIMES WEATHERCALL

For the latest region by region forecast, 24 hours a day, dial 0898 500 followed by the appropriate code.

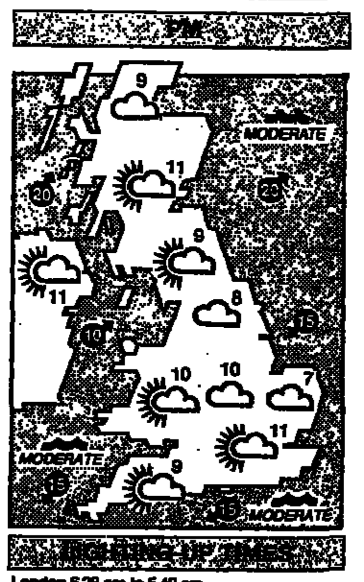
Greater London	701
Kent,Surrey,Sussex	702
Dorset,Hants & IOW	703
Devon & Cornwall	704
Wilts,Gloucs,Avon,Soms	705
Berks,Bucks,Oxon	706
Beds,Herts & Essex	707
Norfolk,Suffolk,Cambs	708
West Mid & Sth Glam & Gwent	709
Shrops,Herefds & Worcs	710
Central Midlands	711
East Midlands	712
Lincs & Humberside	713
Dyfed & Powys	714
Gwynedd & Clwyd	715
N W England	716
W & S Yorks & Dales	717
N E England	718
Cumbria & Lake District	719
S W Scotland	720
W Central Scotland	721
Edin S Fife/Lothian & Borders	722
E Central Scotland	723
Grampian & E Highlands	724
N W Scotland	725
Caithness,Orkney & Shetland	726
N Ireland	727

Weathercall is charged at 33p per minute (cheap rate) and 44p per minute at all other times.

AM



PM



YESTERDAY

Temperatures at midday yesterday: c, cloud; f, fair; r, rain; s, sun.

	C	F			C	F	
Belfast	10	50	s	Guernsey	9	48	s
B'rmgham	11	52	s	Inverness	9	48	f
Blackpool	12	54	s	Jersey	11	52	s
Bristol	12	54	s	London	11	52	f
Cardiff	14	57	s	M'nchster	9	48	s
Edinburgh	8	46	c	Newcastle	7	45	c
Glasgow	10	50	f	R'nldsway	11	52	s

Sun rises: 5.44 am Sun sets: 6.28 pm
Moon sets: 4.59 am Moon rises: 5.59 pm
Full moon tomorrow

LIGHTING-UP TIMES

London 6.28 pm to 5.42 am
Bristol 6.38 pm to 5.52 am
Edinburgh 6.44 pm to 5.50 am
Manchester 6.38 pm to 5.49 am
Penzance 6.49 pm to 6.04 am

HIGHEST & LOWEST

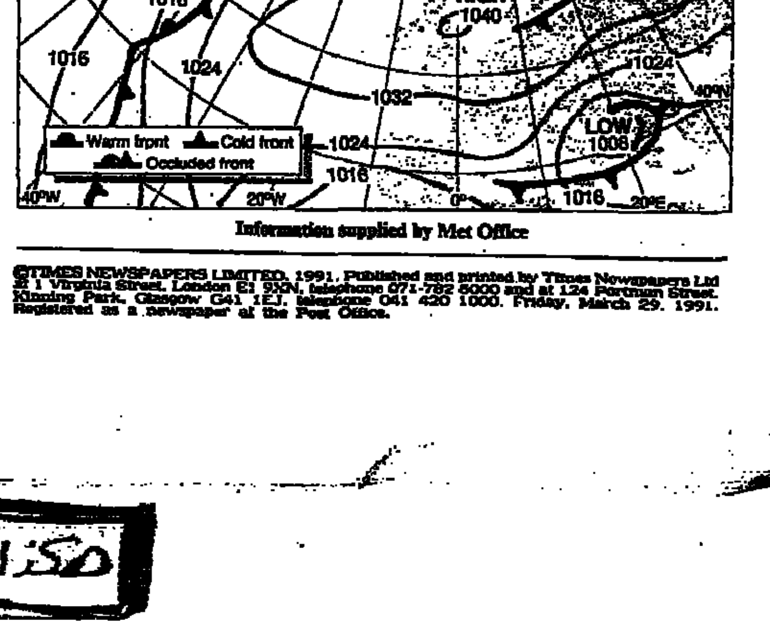
Wednesday: Highest day temp: Bournemouth, 15C (59F); lowest day max: Cape Wrath, Highland, and Fife Ness, Fife, 7C (45F); highest rainfall: Saunton Sands, Devon, 0.01 in; highest sunshine: Bognor Regis, West Sussex, 11.1 hr.

HIGH TIDES

TODAY	AM	HT	PM	HT	TODAY	AM	HT	PM	HT
London Bridge	12.57	7.0	1.27	7.3	Liverpool	10.34	9.4	10.57	9.3
Aberdeen	12.32	4.0	12.38	4.2	Lowestoft	9.00	2.3	8.48	2.5
Avonmouth	6.32	13.1	6.57	13.2	Margate	11.43	4.6	11.46	4.6
Belfast	10.19	3.6	10.57	3.3	Milford Haven	5.27	6.9	5.50	6.9
Cardiff	6.17	12.1	6.42	12.2	Newquay	4.19	7.0	4.41	6.9
Devonport	5.11	5.5	5.37	5.4	Oban	5.13	3.9	5.37	3.8
Dover	10.28	6.3	10.44	6.6	Penzance	4.09	5.6	4.34	5.5
Falmouth	4.41	5.3	5.07	5.2	Portland	6.07	2.1	6.55	2.0
Glasgow	12.05	4.5	12.00	4.8	Portsmouth	11.30	4.5	11.55	4.7
Harwich	11.16	3.9	11.30	3.8	Shoreham	10.33	6.1	10.56	6.3
Holyhead	9.35	5.6	9.57	5.4	Southampton	10.12	4.4	10.36	4.6
Hull	5.42	7.1	5.42	7.5	Swansea	5.42	9.4	6.04	9.4
Ilfracombe	5.18	9.0	5.39	9.0	Tees	2.57	5.1	3.07	5.3
King's Lynn	5.57	6.3	5.59	6.6	W'ton-on-Nze	11.09	4.1	11.20	4.1
Leith	1.48	5.4	2.05	5.6					

Tide in metres: 1m=3.2808ft.

NOON TODAY



Information supplied by Met Office

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● SPORT 28-32

BUSINESS

Business Editor
John Bell

FRIDAY MARCH 29 1991

Barclays chairman wins 21% pay rise

LAST year, Sir John Quinton, the chairman of Barclays Bank, received a 21 per cent pay increase to £404,067, excluding pension contributions. The highest paid director, unnamed in the bank's annual report and accounts, received £553,921, compared with £470,283 in 1989.

The details contrast with staff who were offered a revised pay increase of 7.5 per cent from this month, with an additional 1.5 per cent from August 1.

Directors' pay increases were awarded despite the government's appeal for wage restraint to help curb inflation and during a year when the banking sector suffered heavily from the recession and implemented substantial cost-cutting measures, making thousands of employees redundant.

Barclays has announced that it is cutting 13,000 jobs over the next five years, including 5,000 this year, from a total workforce of 87,000.

Last year, the bank increased profits by less than 10 per cent to £760 million and charged provisions of £1.2 billion against bad debts. Earnings a share fell from 28.9p to 24.7p and the dividend was increased by just 8 per cent for the year, to 21.2p.

Scicon losses

SD-Scicon, the computing services company, incurred pre-tax losses of £19.8 million last year after providing for £24.8 million against losses on long-term, fixed-price contracts, compared with profits of £3.6 million in the previous year. Losses per share deepened from 1.2p to 12.4p but the dividend is maintained at 0.75p for the year.

Tempus, page 23

Laporte rises

Laporte, the specialist chemicals group, achieved its 10th successive year of profits growth last year with pre-tax profits up from £100.3 million to £109.2 million, although earnings a share eased from 48.1p to 44.4p. The final dividend rises from 10.2p to 11.4p a share, making 17.8p (15.7p).

Tempus, page 23

US dollar
1.7365 (–0.0063)
German mark
2.9660 (–0.0002)
Exchange index
92.4 (+0.2)

STOCK MARKETS

FT 30 Share
1953.9 (–12.0)
FT-SE 100
2456.5 (–8.1)
New York Dow Jones
2922.52 (+4.95)*
Tokyo Nikkei Avge
26206.92 (+102.27)

MAJOR CHANGES

RISES:	
Guinness	895p (+10p)
Yorkshire Chem	407½p (+8p)
Ward Group	190p (+7p)
Lambert Howarth	285p (+18p)
News Corp	384p (+24p)
Hepworth	356½p (+7p)
Jardine Math	266p (+14p)
Broken Hill	492½p (+8p)
Alumasc	267p (+14p)
Chemring	545p (+10p)
FALLS:	
Hawker Siddeley	582½p (–13p)
Hanson Crosfield	153½p (–10p)
GKN	375p (–12p)
Turriff	77½p (–7p)
Standard Chartered	371½p (–8p)
Grand Met	802½p (–10p)
Whitbread 'A'	484p (–10p)
AAH	350p (–21p)
Charter Cons	480p (–11p)
Rothmans 'B'	817½p (–17p)

Closing Prices...Page 25

INTEREST RATES

London: Bank Base 12½%
3-month Interbank 12⅝-12$^{5}_{16}$%
3-month eligible bills: 11⅞-11⅝%
US: Prime Rate 9%
Federal Funds 6$^{1}_{16}$%*
3-month Treasury Bills 5.73-5.72%*
30-year bonds 98-98$^{1}_{32}$*

CURRENCIES

London:	New York:
£: $1.7365	£: $1.7380*
£: DM2.9660	$: DM1.7055*
£: SwFr2.5288	$: SwFr1.4552*
£: FFr10.0492	$: FFr5.7835*
£: Yen244.50	$: Yen141.15*
£: Index:92.4	$: Index:66.3
ECU £0.691945	SDR £0.770741
£: ECU1.445201	£: SDR1.297452

GOLD

London Fixing:
AM $354.00 pm-$355.65
close $355.35-355.85 (£204.00-204.50)
New York:
Comex $356.75-357.25*

NORTH SEA

Brent (Apr) .... $18.10 bbl ($18.15)

RETAIL PRICES

RPI: 130.9 February (1985=100)
* Denotes latest trading price

★★★★★★

Maxwell disposal marks Walker's return to the City

Walker: back in business

By WOLFGANG MÜNCHAU

MAXWELL Communication Corporation, the publishing group, has sold the printing interests of its Pergamon Press scientific publishing subsidiary to Elsevier, the Dutch publishing group, for £440 million in cash. In addition, Robert Maxwell will resign as chairman and chief executive of MCC from July 1.

Mr Maxwell will be succeeded by Peter Walker, the former Welsh secretary, and as chief executive by Kevin Maxwell, his son. Robert Maxwell said he wanted to devote more time to running Mirror Group Newspapers and the *Daily News* in New York.

The deal with Elsevier is aimed at reducing MMC's debts, which run at about $1.5 billion. The move follows a number of large acquisitions in recent years, most notably of Macmillan, the American publisher, and Official Airline Guides. His appointment as chairman brings Peter Walker back to the City after a 20-year absence. Mr Walker's best-known business venture was Slater Walker, the finance company he founded with Jim Slater in 1964 that collapsed in the secondary banking crisis of 1975.

Mr Walker, who was a self-made millionaire by the age of 30, left the company in 1970 to become minister of housing and local government in Edward Heath's government. He later served as environment secretary and trade secretary. After his resignation as Welsh secretary last year, Mr Walker indicated that he wanted to return to the business world.

The Pergamon Press sale completes MCC's proposed $750 million programme of asset disposals that was due to conclude by the end of this month. MCC estimates that the saving on interest in the next financial year will be greater than the expected profits at Pergamon Press.

The disposal of Pergamon Press came after several attempts by Mr Maxwell to obtain a greater presence in the scientific publishing market. Speaking from Jerusalem, where he was launching a Russian magazine for Israel, he said: "I failed to get the academic press at Harcourt Brace Jovanovitch. Having failed to get it, I then either could have bought Elsevier, which was not up for sale, or Springer Verlag, which was not up for sale either, so I decided to sell the print business." Mr Maxwell added that MCC will retain the electronic database business.

Elsevier is the publisher of two Dutch newspapers, *NRC Handelsblad* and *Algemeen Dagblad*, magazines and regional papers. The company is also one of the world's leading scientific publishers.

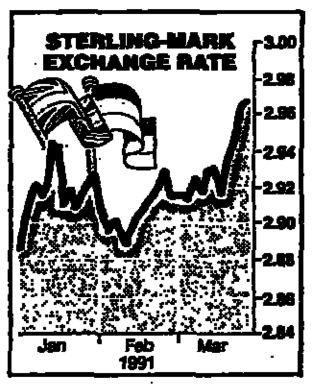
Pergamon Press, which is based in Oxford, publishes 400 scientific journals on medical sciences, physics and engineering, and the social sciences, and also owns *The Chinese Medical Journal* and *Aberdeen University Press*. The inclusion of Pergamon Press will make Elsevier the world's largest commercial publisher in its field, which is dominated by universities, governmental bodies and research institutes. The £440 million acquisition price stands against warranted pre-tax earnings at Pergamon Press for the year to end-March of at least £33.2 million. Net assets were £235 million. The stock market reacted positively, with MCC shares rising 10p to 173p.

Mari Peynenborg, Elsevier's director in charge of strategic planning, said: "We have paid a high price for sure, but this was worth doing. We have always said we wanted to expand in the area of scientific periodicals, and over the last 15 years we have held discussions with various companies almost every year."

Elsevier estimates that the Pergamon Press deal will hold back earnings growth this year by 10 per cent.

Pound moves up to second place in ERM

By COLIN NARBROUGH, ECONOMICS CORRESPONDENT



THE pound climbed past the Italian lira to second from the top of the European exchange-rate mechanism after extending its gains against the mark, rising above DM2.9800 at best.

With the financial markets resigned to having to wait until well into next month for a fresh base rate cut, dealers see scope for the pound to renew its rise against the weakened German currency after the long Easter weekend.

An advance closer towards DM3, a level the pound last reached in the days immediately after ERM entry last October, now looks possible, although some currency analysts regard DM2.9800 as a strong resistance point.

The backwash of the dollar's strong climb against the mark has benefited the pound within the ERM, but has pushed it lower on the cross-rate against the dollar. Foreign exchange markets were quiet later in the day as dealers squared their books before the weekend. The pound closed in London at DM2.9659, marginally below its previous finish. Having been 1.73 cents lower at one stage, sterling regained ground to end at $1.7365, down more than half a cent.

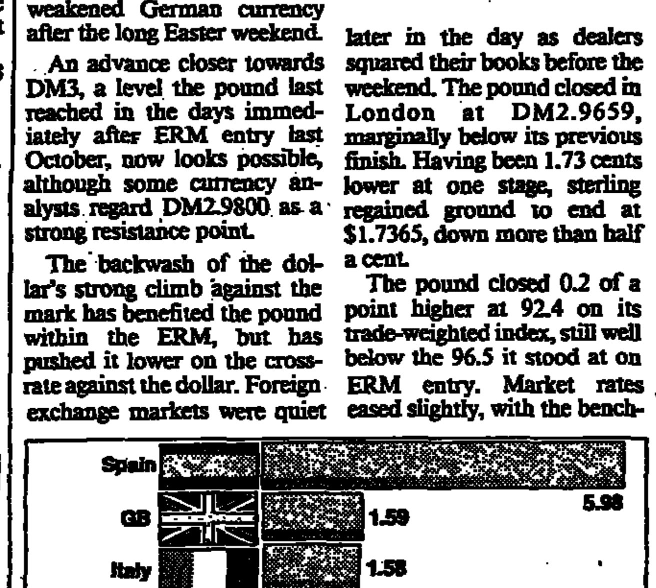
The pound closed 0.2 of a point higher at 92.4 on its trade-weighted index, still well below the 96.5 it stood at on ERM entry. Market rates eased slightly, with the benchmark three-month rate 1/16 lower at 12⅜ per cent.

Keith Skeoch, chief economist at James Capel, said the pound's rise reflected the greater credibility the authorities now enjoyed in the markets. He added that Budget signals and remarks this week from Robin Leigh-Pemberton, Governor of the Bank of England, had reinforced market conviction about policy.

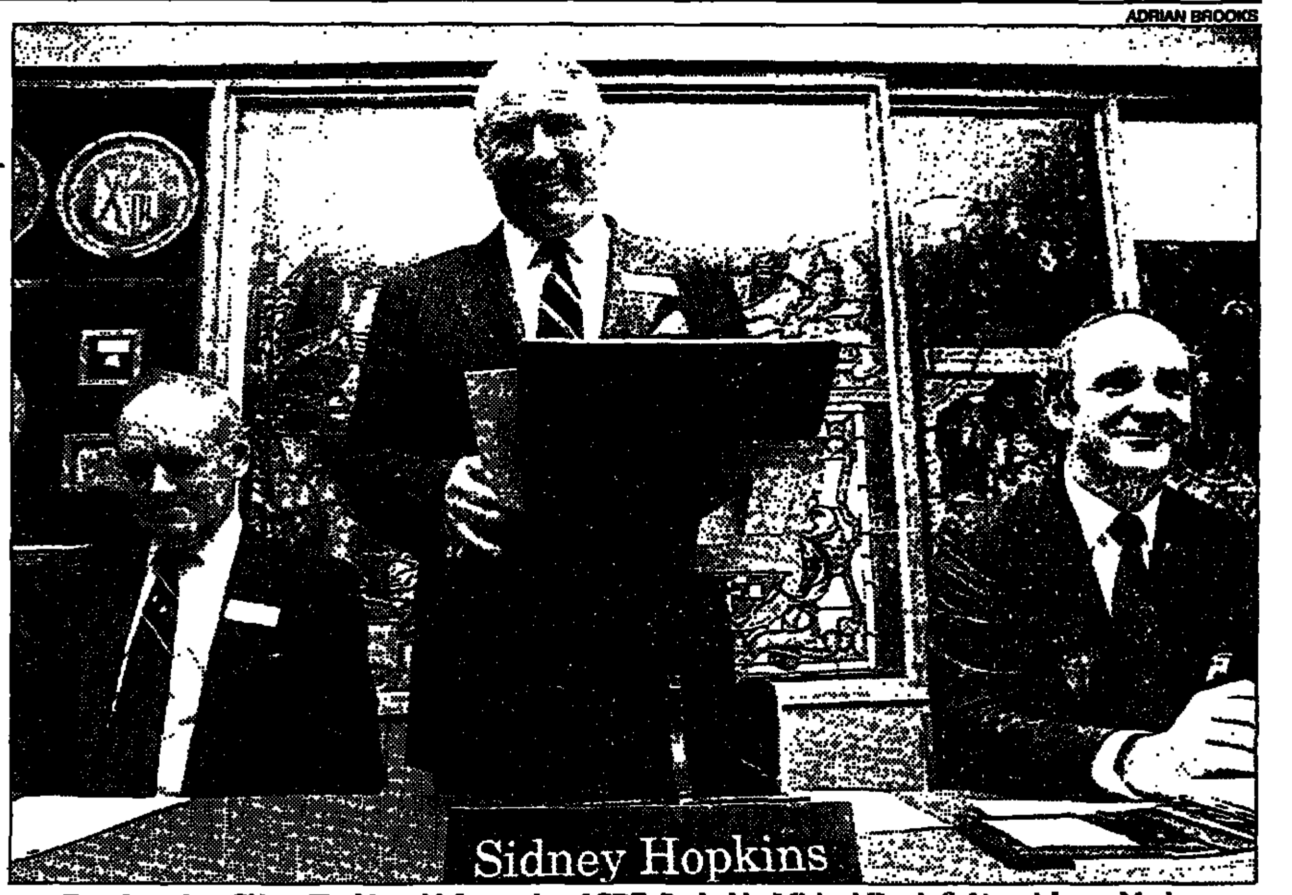
Uncertainty over how the Bundesbank will move on interest rates at its policy-setting council session next Thursday, and the prospect of an American easing after next Friday's unemployment data, are reasons why the British authorities would want to wait before moving on domestic rates. Some analysts believe the Treasury is waiting for April 12, publication date for the retail price figures for March, which are expected to show annual inflation slowing further.

Ian Harnett, chief economist at Strauss Turnbull, said the government was happy to have the pound in the upper half of its ERM bands, and would not want to lower the base rate prematurely, only to have to put them up again.

Weekly data on notes in circulation showed a 5 per cent rise in the week to March 27 year-on-year, pointing to annual growth in M0, the narrow money supply measure, slowing to 2.5 per cent in March. After jumping 2 pfennigs to DM1.72, the dollar eased to end less than half a pfennig up at DM1.7070, as dealers detected tentative signs of the mark starting to bottom out.



Comment, page 23



ADRIAN BROOKS
Trench warfare: Sidney Hopkins, chief executive of GRE, flanked by Michael Harris (left), and James Morley

Guardian aims to get 'out of the trench'

By GRAHAM SEARJEANT, FINANCIAL EDITOR

GUARDIAN Royal Exchange is determined to make big further increases in premiums for motor and household insurance after recording one of the worst results in a dismal year for British composite insurance groups.

GRE, which dates back to 1720, last year made its first ever pre-tax loss of £157 million, against re-stated profits of £159 million in 1989. Shareholders' funds shrank by 43 per cent to £942 million. The final dividend was unchanged, leaving a 3.5 per cent increase for the year to 11.9p per share.

Sidney Hopkins, the chief executive, said the results were "deeply disappointing" though they were in line with the industry. "Our focus is now concentrated on being the first one out of the trench."

Worldwide underwriting losses trebled to £461 million. Of this, £250 million was made in Britain against £26 million in 1989 and an underwriting profit of £28 million in 1988. British storm losses reached £40 million after re-insurance recoveries and subsidence claims cost £30 million. Investment income dipped slightly to £279 million due to currency movements but was up 5.5 per cent in original currencies.

GRE lost £75 million on its motor insurance business, where the proportion of drivers claiming jumped 10 percentage points to almost a third and average claim costs rose more than a quarter. GRE has charged £69 million to strengthen its claim reserves, mainly because of an unexpected rise in the cost of third party motor claims for liability and personal injury.

Heavy losses were also made from insuring company car fleets, where a £35 million net loss was made on just £81 million of premium income. GRE is now turning away fleet business unless it can secure much higher premiums. A rise in arson was blamed for higher fire losses.

The cost of re-insuring household policies this year has mutiplied in the wake of the storms. The Budget rise in VAT is estimated to raise costs by 1 per cent. Extra costs on existing claims will cost £8 million and there will be a further loss of perhaps £10 million on future claims for policies already in force.

GRE expects to raise motor premiums by a further 10 per cent in June to make a 20 per cent rise for the year. Premiuns on household policies will also rise. Almost 10 per cent more will be needed just to meet higher re-insurance costs.

The group has also reviewed head office and branch costs and is likely to cut jobs.

GRE has provided a further £16 million to extricate itself from the Italian joint venture it bought into in 1989, making accumulated losses of £68 million after tax.

Mr Hopkins said that the insurance group had started a legal process in Italy against the vendors of the companies, a construction and property conglomerate.

As expected, the group has also provided a final £51 million net of tax as an extraordinary item to wind up an American professional liability buisiness that it stopped in 1985 with original provisions of £100 million.

Tempus, page 23

IBM job purge to be felt in Britain

From PHILIP ROBINSON IN NEW YORK

IBM, which stunned Wall Street last week with a severe profits warning, is to shed 14,000 jobs worldwide at a cost of $2.3 billion.

This year's cuts will bring total IBM job losses to 40,000 in four years. The latest cutbacks will, for the first time, include some of IBM's workforce of 20,000 in Britain. The company said, however, that exact numbers have yet to be worked out and that the reductions would be accomplished through voluntary incentive programmes, natural wastage and other actions.

Profits of the world's largest computer maker, hit hard by the recession in America and Europe, are expected to halve in the first three months of this year to about $500 million.

The company said it will take a one-time charge of $2.3 billion against earnings in the first quarter to pay for retirement benefits, because of changes in accounting rules.

IBM says its latest cuts, saving $200 million this year, $600 million next and $800 million annually thereafter, are not expected to have a material impact on pre-tax profits this year. Part of the costs will be met from the $1.5 billion sale of the laser printer, office equipment and typewriter operations to Clayton & Dubilier, the New York financial concern.

This transaction, partly financed by Barclays Bank, was completed yesterday. The sale reduced IBM's worldwide workforce of 383,000 by about 4,000.

TSB warning on bad debts

By OUR CITY STAFF

SIR Nicholas Goodison, the chairman of TSB Group, has given a warning that the high street bank will again have to make substantial provisions against bad debts in the current year. As a result, profits in the first half of the year would be "substantially worse" than for the first half of last year.

Sir Nicholas's profits warning came at the annual meeting in Glasgow. He told shareholders that TSB's problems continue to emanate from Hill Samuel, the merchant bank and investment group that the TSB took over in 1987.

This month, Hamish Donaldson resigned as chief executive of Hill Samuel with Ted Emerson, managing director of its corporate banking division. Their departure came two months after TSB reported a pre-tax loss of £40 million for the year to end-October after being forced to make bad debt provisions of £261 million. Some £156 million of those provisions related to Hill Samuel.

Despite making the provisions, an examination of Hill Samuel's loan book has revealed a deteriorating picture. Sir Nicholas said that many of Hill Samuel's problem loans dated back to 1987 and were agreed in the mood of common optimism at the time. Analysts said that part of the TSB's problems was an accident of its October year-end as the condition of many companies had deteriorated seriously in the following few months. Sir Nicholas agreed that there had been a sharp deterioration.

He would give no clues about the size of provisions the bank was likely to make.

He said: "It is notoriously difficult to get debt provisioning right — it is more a matter of judgment than a science. It is, therefore, equally difficult to forecast a bank's profits during times of severe recession."

Analysts were sharing in Sir Nicholas's difficulty. There was some consensus that bad debt provisions might total £200 million at the half year, with pre-tax profits falling from £175 million to about £90 million.

Forecasting the second half was made more difficult by the fact that, theoretically at least, the economy ought to be recovering by then. Nevertheless, forecasts ranging from £300 million to £350 million before Sir Nicholas's speech, were reduced to between £200 million to £290 million after it.

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Sheraton calls in receiver

By MATTHEW BOND

SHERATON Securities, the property group, has called in the receiver seven months after a £50 million refinancing that appeared to give the debt-laden developer a new lease of life.

Sheraton's demise looked likely after it reported a pre-tax loss of £57 million six weeks ago. The losses left the company with negative shareholders' funds of £24 million, putting it in breach of covenants agreed with its panel of bankers at the time of last August's refiancing.

Peter Taylor, managing director, immediately began a new round of talks with the banks, still hopeful of creating a secure financial future for his company. It was not to to be. At 5.40pm yesterday, Sheraton's shares were technically suspended at 2p, pending clarification of the company's financial position. Four minutes later, clarification came with a brief announcement that receivers were to be appointed.

Sheraton's downfall was caused by several factors. Having borrowed heavily to finance an ambitious development programme, Sheraton found itself unable to sell its completed developments. At the same time, property values were falling fast.

At the time of the refinancing in August, Sheraton wrote down the value of its developments by over £61 million. Six months later it was forced to make further provisions of almost £50 million, as property values continued to slide.

At the time of last summer's refinancing arranged by SG Warburg, Sheraton's debts, both on and off balance sheet, totalled £356 million.

Captain Spalvins runs out of Adsteam

Spalvins: leaving the helm

By ROSS TIEMAN
INDUSTRIAL CORRESPONDENT

JOHN Spalvins, the managing director of Adsteam Group, yesterday stepped from the bridge of his vessel, which is still afloat but badly holed. Yet it remains unclear whether the abrupt departure of Mr Spalvins and Michael Kent, his financial lieutenant, will be sufficient to ensure the future for the former pride of corporate Australia.

The first-half loss at Adsteam, unveiled yesterday, was one of the biggest in antipodean corporate history — and here Australia leads the world. The group, a huge conglomerate spanning retailing to ice-cream manufacture, and bound together by a web of cross-shareholdings, lost Aus$1.28 billion (£571 million) in the half to end December.

But there was no news of the refinancing agreement with Adsteam's bankers upon which the group's survival now depends. Adsteam has debts of almost Aus$9 billion. Its lenders merely said they had given "substantial in-principle support".

Mr Spalvins will not be washed up alone among the flotsam of Australian corporate adventurism. That country's current deep recession has exposed an addiction to excessive corporate borrowing during the Eighties that bordered on a death wish.

The list of victims is already sufficient to staff several games of beach volleyball: Christopher Skase, Alan Bond, Bruce Judge, the Fairfax family and Russell Goward among others. Yet Mr Spalvins has every right to claim the captain's title. After all, he has survived rather longer than most of his internationally known peers.

When he clambered aboard in 1973, Adelaide Steamship had been operating cargo vessels around the Australian coast for 98 years. But with shipping in a slump, its fortunes were low and the decision had already been made to move in new directions.

In 1980, Adsteam made its first change of course, acquiring a 46 per cent stake in David Jones, the department store group. Mr Spalvins went on to buy 40 per cent of Tooth & Co, the brewing and Penfolds wine company, Petersville Sleigh, a coal and shipping group subsequently redirected into food, and National Consolidated, an engineering company. But Mr Spalvins' "deal too far" was the Aus$750 million acquisition of Industrial Equity Limited.

Adsteam hopes to survive by concentrating upon its retailing interests. But with a fire sale of assets looming, resources for even such a limited goal may be hard to find.

Electricity price rises average 10%

By PHILIP BASSETT, INDUSTRIAL EDITOR

REGIONAL electricity companies have ignored government appeals to keep down their prices before the general election and in order to help reduce inflation. Instead, they have agreed increases averaging 10.5 per cent from next week.

Although the scale of the rises is less than had been suggested — up to 13 per cent — the increases by the 12 regional companies are much higher than ministers wanted to see.

The average increase in tariffs, from highest to lowest, are: East Midlands, 11 per cent; Eastern, London, Midlands, South East and Southern, 10.9 per cent each; Northern, 10.6 per cent; Manweb, South Wales and the South West, 10.5 per cent each; Norweb, 9.9 per cent; and Yorkshire, 9 per cent.

All price rises will run from Monday. The average rise of 10.5 per cent is considerably higher than the latest inflation rate for February of 8.9 per cent, and is likely to be higher still than the inflation rate for April.

Industry managers argue that the prices are well within the increase formula laid down by the government. Some managers believe that because the first electricity bills under the new prices will cover the first warm period of the year, domestic electricity customers may not notice the rises until next winter.

Even so, increases at this level run counter to direct appeals by the government to leaders of the 12 companies to keep their price rises down. This month, John Wakeham, the outgoing energy secretary, met the chairman and senior officials of all the companies to appeal for care to be taken over the tariffs.

According to one participant, Mr Wakeham said the government would be unhappy to see rises of the order being suggested.

Another said Mr Wakeham told the chairman that the government would be uneasy with such rises so close to an election and when the fight against inflation was continuing.

For those reasons, ministers may look even more closely at prices in the run-up to next April, with the election having to come before summer next year.

The rises have been approved by Professor Stephen Littlechild, director general of the Office of Electricity Regulation.

Tiphook seeks £150m

Bucking the trend: Robert Montagne, Tiphook chairman

TIPHOOK, the trailer and container rental group, is bucking the rights issue trend by issuing £150 million of redeemable preference shares to refinance bank debt (Jonathan Prynn writes).

Eric Goodwin, the deputy chairman, said: "We don't need a rights issue and we are not in the market for one." The company was 260 per cent geared at the October 31 half-time after a number of acquisitions, including the $537 million purchase of assets from Sea Containers last February. A £240 million rights issue part-financed the Sea Containers deal.

The preference share issue will save Tiphook an estimated £750,000 to £1 million a year by refinancing the bank debt because of the lower fixed rate dividend on the shares. The dividend is expected to be set at about 8.5 per cent, but after advance corporation tax and guarantee costs the all-in cost will be about three quarters of a percentage point below the cost of the bridging loan being retired.

The preference shares are non-voting and non-convertible and have a five-year maturity. They are to be issued in the bank market, and will be underwritten by Commerzbank and Lloyds, which provided the bridging loan, and National Westminster. The three banks are subscribing for between £15 million and £20 million of the shares with the remainder syndicated to other banks. Mr Goodwin said the issue would be attractive to the banks, despite the lower coupon, because of tax advantages.

Paribas hit by UK bad debts

From NEIL BENNETT IN PARIS

PARIBAS, the French banking and industrial group, suffered a 26 per cent fall in net income to Fr4.09 billion last year owing to heavy bad debt provisions and financing costs.

André Lévy-Lang, chairman of the management board, singled out Britain as one of the worst areas for bad debts.

Paribas had to make a large provision against British companies during the year. Outside France, Britain is the most important area of Paribas's operations. Earlier this month, Crédit du Nord, the group's retail banking arm, said it had largely withdrawn from lending to Britain.

In all, the group increased loan loss provisions by 39 per cent to Fr4.95 billion.

The results would have been worse if it had not been for some exceptional gains on asset disposals. These included the sale of an office building in Paris to Assurance Générales de France (AGF), the state-owned insurance group, for a Fr1.3 million pre-tax profit.

Net capital profit from this and other sales increased 48 per cent to Fr2.47 billion while the group's operating profits slumped by 58 per cent to Fr1.67 billion.

Operating profits were hit by the interest costs on Paribas's investment in and failed bid for Navigation Mixte, the rival industrial group.

M Lévy-Lang said the company may sell some of its industrial stakes to improve operating profits. "Our portfolio is mobile," he said, "so there will be some disposals."

Paribas owns a host of stakes in other companies, including 24.9 per cent of Virgin stores and 33.7 per cent of Sema, the software house, in Britain.

M Lévy-Lang said the group would like to buy a stake in AGF which is thought to want to raise Fr3 billion in a share issue.

BUSINESS ROUNDUP

Control Techniques issues profit warning

SHARES in Control Techniques tumbled from 216p to 147p after the manufacturer of speed control equipment gave a warning of lower profits for the six months to the end of this month. Trevor Wheatley, the chairman, said that, although second half profits were likely to show a considerable improvement over the first half, profits for the year as a whole were still likely to be down.

Mr Wheatley blamed destocking by distributors and a reduction in capital and re-equipping projects. Control has already made 160 people redundant. Pre-tax profits jumped 68 per cent to £7.4 million in 1989-90.

Calor's £17m eastern move

CALOR Group has said that it plans to invest up to £17 million in a joint venture to market and distribute liquefied petroleum gas in Poland, Hungary and Czechoslovakia. Calor will seek shareholder approval for the venture at an extraordinary general meeting after its annual meeting on April 25.

Midland lifts Italian stake

MIDLAND Bank has increased its holding in Euromobiliare, an Italian investment bank, to 54.5 per cent after buying a 6.5 per cent stake from Carlo De Benedetti, the Italian magnate. Midland bought the stake from Cerus, a company owned by Signor De Benedetti. The price was not disclosed.

Norton shares halted

SHARES in Norton Group, the motorcycle company under investigation by the trade department, were suspended at 18p after postponement of interim results until the end of April. It blamed delays in gathering information from its German subsidiary.

Norton hopes to name a chief executive to follow Philippe Le Roux, who resigned in January after failing to produce finance for his allocation of shares from a £6.55 million rights issue. The group's reconstruction is complicated by the collapse of TC Coombes, the broker that underwrote the rights issue and was left with 20 per cent of the company.

ILG creditors meeting date

THE joint administrators of ILG Travel, whose collapse this month led to over half a million holidaymakers losing bookings, were given leave in the High Court to give notice of the group's creditors' meeting by advertising in the national press. Other creditors will be told by post. A provisional date for the meeting is April 19.

Ford issues loss warning

FORD Motor Co said it will be difficult to turn a profit in 1991 if the economy remains weak. "Should present economic conditions continue, or the recovery be relatively weak, it will be difficult for the company to realise a profit in 1991," Ford said in its annual report. Ford expects a "substantial" first-quarter loss.

Garton slips to £1m

GARTON Engineering, the Midlands metal components group, is holding the total dividend at 7p with a final of 5.25p despite a fall in profits to £1 million (£1.58 million) in 1990. Earnings were 17.06p (27.85p) a share. The company was hit by a sharp fall in demand from the construction and motor industries. Turnover fell to £22.93 million (£23.87 million).

The company also had a fire in mid-December which destroyed a factory and the main distribution centre at Wednesbury. Aubrey Garton, chairman, said short-term prospects were not yet indicating recovery.

Clarke Nickolls goes into red after writedown

By MATTHEW BOND

THE fall in property values has forced Clarke, Nickolls & Coombs to write down the value of its properties by £8.5 million. The writedowns, taken as an exceptional item, have resulted in the property company reporting a pre-tax loss of £7.3 million for the year to end-December, compared with a pretax profit of £4.5 million in 1989.

Having made provisions of £1.9 million at the interim stage, the company warned it would need a further writedown of about £6 million two months ago. The value of the company investment portfolio fell by £2 million, which, coupled with the attributable losses, reduced net assets per share from 120p to 75p.

The company's rent roll has increased by 21 per cent to £3.1 million. A final of 0.5p (2p) is being paid, to make a total dividend of 0.75p (3p).

Invesco payout holds firm

By JONATHAN PRYNN

INVESCO MIM, the investment management group, has held its dividend in spite of a 46 per cent slump in pre-tax profits to £19.17 million (£35.52 million).

A final dividend of 3.7p (unchanged), makes 6p for the year to end-December. Lord Stevens, chairman, said 1990 was a "difficult year for all companies in the financial services industry". The profit fall was sharpest in European and Pacific Investment Management, which saw a two-thirds fall from £21.4 million to £7 million. Profits from North American Investment Management fell only 10 per cent to £18.3 million. Lord Stevens said the American division's profits were broadly unchanged in dollar terms.

The insurance activities turned a £1.1 million loss in 1989 to a £753,000 profit. There was also an exceptional charge of £3.2 million to cover unrealised losses arising on the employee share option trust. Invesco ended the year with £25 billion under management (£24 billion). In dollar terms the funds under management rose to $49 billion ($39 billion).

Lord Stevens said Invesco had responded to poor trading conditions in the second half of the year by reducing overheads "while maintaining our commitment to our core business of global fund management". Central overheads for the year were £1.64 million (£1.52 million) but the interest charge was down to £5.78 million (£7.76 million) after the sale of National Employers Life Assurance Holdings for £38.9 million.

MAJOR INDICES

New York:
Dow Jones .... 2922.52 (+4.95)*
S&P Composite ...... 375.76 (+0.41)*

Tokyo:
Nikkei Average .. 26206.92 (+102.27)

Hong Kong:
Hang Seng .... 3745.97 (+54.15)
FT-SE Euro 100 ...... 1093.14 (+2.97)

Amsterdam:
CBS Tendency .... 96.2 (+0.1)
Sydney: AO .... 1444.1 (+7.0)
Frankfurt: DAX ..... 1522.80 (+14.00)

Brussels:
General .... 5799.66 (+7.83)
Paris: CAC .... 479.76 (+3.39)
Zurich: SKA Gen .... 549.3 (-3.3)

London:
FT.—A All-Share .... 1193.33 (-3.78)
FT.— "500" .... 1314.64 (-3.34)
FT. Gold Mines .... 138.4 (-0.6)
FT. Fixed interest .... 94.53 (+0.08)
FT. Govt Secs .... 85.03 (+0.23)
Bargains 44540
SEAQ Volume 546.6m
USM (Datastream) ..... 138.61 (-0.14)

*Denotes latest trading price

Portfolio PLATINUM

For readers who may have missed a copy of *The Times* this week, we repeat below the week's *Portfolio* price changes (today's are on page 25).

Share No	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thur	Fri	Weekly Total
1	+8	+2	+4	+7		
2	+6	+8	+4	+4		
3	+5	+3	+3	+7		
4	+8	+3	+4	+5		
5	+7	+3	+2	+7		
6	+5	+6	+3	+4		
7	+4	+2	+7	+4		
8	+9	+3	+3	+5		
9	+5	+5	+1	+6		
10	+4	+2	+8	+5		
11	+4	+1	+7	+4		
12	+6	+5	+3	+6		
13	+5	+1	+8	+3		
14	+6	+7	+5	+3		
15	+9	+1	+6	+4		
16	+6	+4	+2	+6		
17	+7	+2	+4	+8		
18	+6	+5	+2	+7		
19	+5	+7	+5	+4		
20	+8	+3	+4	+4		
21	+7	+4	+3	+7		
22	+4	+6	+5	+5		
23	+6	+2	+8	+6		
24	+5	+7	+3	+3		
25	+9	+1	+5	+4		
26	+6	+3	+1	+8		
27	+5	+2	+7	+4		
28	+4	+8	+4	+3		
29	+8	+1	+4	+5		
30	+6	+7	+4	+5		
31	+5	+4	+2	+8		
32	+5	+7	+3	+4		
33	+5	+2	+6	+3		
34	+7	+2	+3	+5		
35	+7	+2	+3	+4		
36	+4	+1	+7	+4		
37	+5	+7	+4	+5		
38	+4	+4	+8	+3		
39	+6	+3	+1	+8		
40	+5	+1	+6	+3		
41	+8	+2	+4	+6		
42	+7	+3	+2	+6		
43	+6	+3	+7	+5		
44	+5	+8	+4	+4		

Bond Corp reports Aus$298m losses

Sydney

BOND Corporation won a crucial round yesterday in its fight to stay out of liquidation but also reported a huge loss for the three months to end-December.

The company said it lost Aus$298.2 million (£133 million) in the quarter, compared with a loss of Aus$758.2 million for the six months to December 1989.

Sales dropped to Aus$466.4 million (Aus$3.75 billion), reflecting the sale of most of Bond's operating businesses to cut debt. Total borrowings stood at Aus$3.89 billion.

Kim McGrath, Bond Corp's executive director, said, after court clearance yesterday, that the company hoped to convene creditors meetings to approve its debt-for-equity scheme by the end of May.

The Western Australian Supreme Court ruled that Bond Corp be allowed to present the proposal to its creditors, saying the scheme was in the public interest. Mr McGrath said he expected final court approval by the end of June if it won support from creditors.

Success is threatened by separate court action, by associate company JN Taylor Ltd, to wind up the Bond Corp subsidiary Bond Corporation Finance Ltd (BCF). Taylor, itself in liquidation, is owed Aus$180 million by BCF. The case is due on April 24.

Richard Fisher, Bond Corp counsel, told the Supreme Court on Tuesday that liquidation of BCF would mean that some conditions of Bond Corp's scheme of arrangement would not be met.

Mr McGrath said that if the Bond Corp scheme failed, creditors would receive one or two cents in the dollar against about 19 cents if it succeeded.

Asked about the future of Bond Corp if it was restructured, he said it would probably concentrate on property, the business on which Alan Bond, former Bond chairman, founded the empire more than 20 years ago.

He added. "Hopefully as long as no creditor becomes too myopic, [Bond Corp will emerge] as a medium-sized property investment company."

Peter Lucas, Bond Corp chairman, estimated in February that Bond's assets were worth Aus$400-450 million. *(Reuter)*

STOCK MARKET

Shares pushed lower by apathy and poor company results

EQUITIES drifted, suffering from a lack of enthusiasm, as the three-week account closed and many dealers made an early dash ahead of the Easter break. Shares were pushed lower by a combination of the expiry of the March FT-SE futures, a dull opening on Wall Street and some poor company results. Ordinary shares were sold by dealers keen to close positions taken in the futures market.

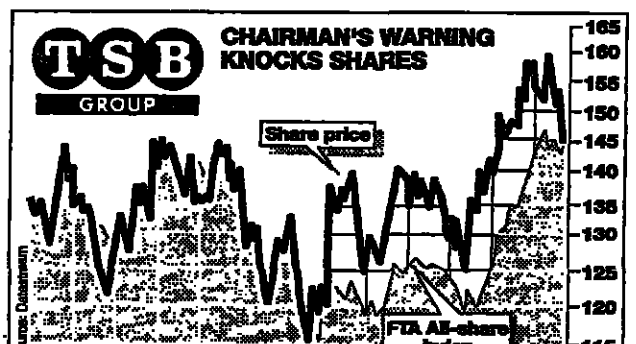
Dealers were also reluctant to open positions ahead of the Easter weekend but the new account is expected to open higher, with investors prepared to buy shares.

The FT-SE 100 index ended the session 8.1 lower at 2,456.5, after an afternoon rally lifted the index from an earlier 15.2 deficit. The narrower FT index of 30 shares lost 12 to 1,953.9. Turnover reached 546.6 million shares.

Government securities saw gains near £½, helped by overseas bond market strength.

Reports that **Rank Organisation** is to redeem its $200 million auction market preferred stock (Amps) in America awakened fears that other British companies tapping the American market may be forced to use cash or borrowings to buy in paper now considered as equity.

Of those exposed to Amps, **BET** lost 6p to 167p, although there was also some end-of-account profit taking, while Rank ended 7p firmer at 730p. **Redland** was up 1p at 598p, **Ratners** 1p lower at 175p, **Pearson** 12p up at 770p, **Tarmac** eased 4p to 251p, and **Beazer** was up 2p to 162p.



Costain Group, the construction to property group due to report full-year figures next Thursday, is favoured by many as one of the next candidates for a rights issue, especially as borrowings are high. The shares firmed 4½p to 202½p.

Grand Metropolitan lost 20p to 803p, after renewed market speculation that the group is considering a rights issue, although some dismissed the talk as "idle speculation".

Securiguard, the security to industrial cleaning and services group, has made substantial progress, securing orders worth about $33.4 million over the last few weeks. They include one worth $18.4 million, involving a two-year deal to provide security for Kennedy International Airport, in New York. The benefits from the contracts should be seen in the second half of the current year. Securiguard shares eased 1p to 130p.

TSB Group lost 5p to 149p, after Sir Nicholas Goodison, the chairman, told shareholders at the annual meeting that "1991 is likely to be a very difficult year". TSB gave warning that higher provisions at the Hill Samuel subsidiary will contribute to a sharp fall in "substantially worse" interim profits, which are due in June.

Elsewhere in the sector, **Barclays** lost 2p to 442p, **Lloyds** 6p to 336p, **Midland** 2p to 200p, **National Westminster** 5p to 225p and **Standard Chartered** 8p to 372p. Investment support helped **Abbey National** rise 5p to 272p.

Confirmation that Robert Maxwell is selling Pergamon Press to Elsevier for £440 million helped Maxwell **Communication** shares to a 10p gain to 173p.

Poor results were also a feature. **Guardian Royal Exchange** unveiled a £165 million loss for the year after a £460 million underwriting loss, compared with last year's profit of £148 million. A maintained dividend, however, helped limit the deficit on the shares to 3p at 216p.

AAH Holdings, the health care and services group, plunged 21p to 350p, after news that it plans to withdraw from the medical data provision business — expected to result in a £12 million write-off — concentrating its resources on the supply of computer hardware and software to general practitioners.

News that **Tiphook**, the transport group, is raising £150 million through an issue of preference shares, intended to repay bridging loans from its bankers, left the shares 4p easier at 409p.

Markheath Securities exercised its put option over 4 million **Frogmore Estates** ordinary shares, leaving Markheath 1p higher at 38p and Frogmore 7p lower at 339p.

GEC lost 4½p to 201p as 8.2 million shares were traded, including a reported tranche of 3 million shares. American buying provided support for **BAT Industries**, 6p firmer at 706p. A profits warning from **Control Techniques** sent the shares diving 67p lower to 149p. **BAA** rose 2p to 407p, on hopes that bookings are picking up. **British Airways** slipped 2p to 169p, on fears of Heathrow landing rights competition.

Elsewhere, reports that **Marks and Spencer** is expected partially to absorb VAT increases for the summer season pushed the shares 2p lower at 237p. **GUS A** lost 13p to 1214p, **Storehouse** 5p to 111p and **Etam** 7p to 147p.

PHILIP PANGALOS

RECENT ISSUES

EQUITIES

Aberdeen Tst	60
Atlantis Resources	37
Aberforth Smlr (100p)	117
Alliance Res	44½ -3½
Brabant Res (155p)	134
CMW Group (30p)	58 -2
Castle Cairn (50p)	37
Drayton Blue Chip	100
EFM Java Tst (50p)	41
East German Inv	115 +2
Eidos (100p)	60
Etonbrook	69
Europe Energy	15 -1
Faber Prest (175p)	129
Foreign & Col	50
Highcroft Inv	165
Invergordon (135p)	163 -1
Levercrest (108p)	68 -1
MMEC	3½
MMI (20p)	24
Malaysia Capital	27⅛
Midland Radio	96
Proteus Intl (84p)	123
Seton Healthcare	188
Smaller IT	79 -2
Stand Platform (225p)	175
Trio Inv Tst	42
Utd Uniform	87
Unichem (100p)	157
Wig Tpe App	215 -1½

● *See main prices page for Elec shares*

RIGHTS ISSUES

Redland N/P	69 +3

(Issue price in brackets).

TRADITIONAL OPTIONS

First Dealings	Last Dealings	Last Declaration	For Settlement
March 18	April 5	June 27	July 8

Call options were taken out on: 28/3/90 Attwoods, Berisford Intl, Eurotunnel Wts, Lionheart, Next, Whitegate Leisure.
Puts: Berisford Intl, British Fittings, Expedier, Southnews.
Puts & Calls: Control Secs, Ferranti, Saatchi & Saatchi.

FT-SE 100 VOLUMES

	Vol '000		Vol '000		Vol '000		Vol '000
Abbey Nat	3,249	Cadbury	1,548	L&G	562	Royal Bnk	3,814
Alld-Lyons	1,154	CU	1,209	Lloyds	1,298	Royal Ins	992
Anglian	859	Courtaulds	1,126	Lonrho	1,339	Sainsbury	1,453
ASDA	4,703	Dalgety	436	Lucas	1,642	Scot & N	1,233
AB Foods	677	Enterprise	779	M&S	3,435	Sears	3,701
Argyll	1,951	Eurotunnel	830	Maxwell Cm	1,902	Severn Trnt	848
BAA	1,684	Fisons	975	MEPC	1,039	Shell	3,519
BET	2,889	Gen Acc	1,055	Midland	3,875	Smith & N	5,048
BTR	3,200	GEC	8,231	Nat West	3,498	SK Beech	1,342
BAT	2,262	Glaxo	2,153	N W Water	387	Sun Allnce	648
Barclays	3,221	Grand Met	2,800	P&O	723	Tarmac	773
Bass	651	GUS 'A'	192	Pearson	451	Tate Lyle	1,982
BICC	1,565	GRE	6,452	Pilkington	1,863	TSB	6,216
Bk Scotlnd	1,410	GKN	574	Prudential	2,338	Tesco	2,119
Blue Circle	2,369	Guinness	2,036	Racal	2,399	Thames Wtr	756
BOC	736	Hamm 'A'	1,268	Rk Hovis	1,025	Thorn EMI	707
Boots	1,892	Hanson	6,920	Rank	579	Trafalgar	1,822
Br Aero	579	H & C	1,858	R&C	291	THF	1,451
Br Airwys	1,220	Hawker	554	Redland	623	Ultramar	2,000
Br Gas	6,100	Hillsdown	1,903	Reed	894	Unilever	619
Br Petrol	10,537	ICI	1,275	Reuters	369	United Bis	1,836
Br Steel	2,235	Kingfisher	993	RMC Gp	249	Wellcome	838
Br Telecm	8,112	Lasmo	981	RTZ	1,510	Whitbrd	1,032
Burmah Cst	919	Ladbroke	2,180	R-Royce	2,227	Wig Teape	1,075
C&W	3,491	Land Sec	3,268	Rothmn 'B'	184	Willis Cor	1,155

London traded options are held out owing to lack of space.

WALL STREET

Dow sees early gain

New York

WALL Street shares firmed in morning trading amid end-of-month window dressing. Selling pressure was nominal, but analysts expected profit-taking to cut gains. The Dow Jones industrial average rose six points before falling back to 2,921.29, up 3.72, in late morning.

● Tokyo — Stocks closed higher on hopes that institutional investors would push up prices today, last day of the fiscal year. The Nikkei index gained 102.27 points to 26,206.92. *(Reuter)*

	Mar 28 midday	Mar 27 close
Abbott Lab	48	48%
Aetna Life	47	46%
Ahmanson	18%	18%
Air Prods	68%	67%
Albertsons	45%	46
Alcan Al	22	22%
Alco Stand	32	32%
Allied Signal	28%	28%
Alumin CA	65%	66%
Am Brands	44	44%
Am Cyanmd	51%	53%
Am EPC	29%	29
Am General	38%	39
Am Home	59	58%
Am Intl	95%	95%
Am Medical	5%	5%
Am Stores	84%	85
Amax	25%	25%
Amer Hess	46%	46%
Amertech	67%	67
Amex	29	30
Amoco	52%	53
AMP	53%	53%
AMR	59	59%
Anheuser-B	51%	51%
Apple Comp	68%	69%
Archer-Dan	21%	21%
Arkla	18%	18%
Armstrong	30	29%
Asarco	29	29
Ashland Oil	31%	31
AT&T	34%	34%
Atlan Richfld	127%	128%
Auto DP	64%	64%
Avery Intl	24%	23%
Avon Prod	44%	43%
Baltimore	29%	29%
Banc One	35%	38
Bankamerica	36%	36%
Bard	24%	24%
Barnett Bl	23%	23%
Bausch Lmb	82%	82%
Baxter Intl	33	33%
Bec Dickin	78%	77%
Bell Atlan	51%	50%
Bellsouth	53%	53
Bkr Hughes	26%	25%
Black Decker	12%	12%
Block	52%	52
Brkrs Tst NY	42%	43%
Boeing	47%	47%
Boise Casc	26	25%
Borden	35%	35%
Brist-Myer	78%	78%
Browng-Fer	26%	26%
Burl Nth	29%	29%
CAI	8%	8%
Campbell Sp	78%	77%
Cap Cities	465%	466
Capital HC	48%	48%
Carolina	47%	47%
Caterpillar	47%	48%
CBS	167	167%
Central SW	45	46%
Champion	26%	26%
Chase Man	15%	15
Chem Bnkg	17%	17%
Chevron	78	78%
Chrysler	14%	14%
Chubb	72%	72%
Cigna	52%	51%
Citicorp	14%	14%
Clbme Liz	43%	45
Clorox	39%	39%
Cmwlth Edis	39%	39%
CNA Fincl	87%	86%
Coastal	31%	32%
Coca-Cola	54%	54%
Colgate-Pal	76%	76%
Columb Gas	44%	44%
Compaq	63	63%
Conagra	45%	45%
Cons Edis	25%	25%
Cons NG	41%	41%
Cons Rail	47%	47
Cooper Ind	49%	49%
Corning	60%	61%
CPC Intl	83%	84%
Crown Cork	67%	65%
CSX	37	36%
Dana	29%	29%
Dayton-Hud	70%	69%
Deere	49%	49%
Delta Air	71%	72%
Deluxe	37%	37%
Detroit Ed	28%	28%
Digital Eq	69%	70%
Dillard	105%	107
Disney	119%	119%
Dominion	48%	48%
Donnelley	46%	46%
Dover	40%	40%
Dow Chem	49%	49%
Dow Jones	25%	25
Dresser Ind	26%	25%
Du Pont	37	36%
Duke Pwr	28%	28%
Dun Bradst	47%	47%
East Kodak	43%	42%
Eaton	57%	57%
Emerson El	44%	44%

	Mar 28 midday	Mar 27 close
Enron	56%	57%
Entergy	24%	24%
Ethyl	29	28%
Exxon	58%	58%
Fed NMA	46%	45%
Fedrl Expre	36%	35%
Fit Norstar	16%	16%
Fluor	48%	48%
FMC	36%	36%
Ford Motor	32%	32%
FPL	30%	30%
Fst Chicago	22%	22
Fst Intrsta	32%	32%
Fst Union	22%	21%
Gannett	40%	41%
Gen Cinema	22%	23
Gen Elec	69%	69%
Gen Mills	58%	58%
Gen Motors	37%	38%
Gen RE	98%	98%
Gen Signal	42%	42
Genentech	25%	24%
Genuine Pts	39	38%
Georgia-Pac	42%	43
Gillette	76%	76%
Goodrich	38%	38%
Goodyear	24%	22%
Grace	29%	30
Greyhound	31%	31%
Gt Atlantic	58%	59%
Gt Western	17%	17%
GTE	31	31
Halliburtn	46%	46%
Heinz	39%	39%
Hercules	41%	41%
Hershey Fd	40%	41%
Hewlett Pkd	50%	50%
Hilton Htl	40%	40%
Home Depot	53%	54%
Homestake	15%	15%
Honeywell	59%	59%
Houston Ind	38%	38%
Hsehld Intl	45%	45%
Humana	48%	49%
IBM	113	112%
IF&F	78%	77%
Illinois TW	56%	55%
Inco	33%	32
Ingsol-Rand	46%	47%
Inland Steel	21%	21%
Intel	47	47%
Intl Paper	61%	62
ITT	56%	56%
James River	28%	28%
Johnsn Jhsn	96	96%
K Mart	41%	41%
Kellogg	93%	92%
Kerr-McGee	43	43%
Kimbly-Clrk	89%	89%
Knght-Rddr	51%	50%
Lilly	78%	78%
Limited	25%	25%
Lin Brdcstg	64%	66
Lincln Nat	51%	51%
Litton Ind	82%	82%
Lockheed	42%	42%
Louis-Pac	30%	30%
Manu Hano	25%	25%
Marriott	17%	17%
Marsh Mclen	85	84%
Martin Mar	56%	57%
Masco	23	22%
May Dept	53%	53%
Maytag	15%	15%
McDnl Doug	37%	38%
McDonalds	34%	34%
McGraw-Hill	58%	58%
MCI Com	26	26%
Mead	30%	29%
Medtronic	117%	118%
Mellon Bk	27	27
Melville	53%	54
Merck	106%	106%
Merll Lynch	34%	34%
MM&M	86%	86%
Mobil	64%	64%
Monsanto	57%	58%
Moore	24%	24%
Morgan	48%	46%
Motorola	57%	58%
Nat Medical	49%	49%
Nat Semi	7%	7%
Nat Service	26	25%
Navistar	3%	3%
NCNB	34%	34%
NCR	98%	97%
NBD Bncp	39%	39%
Newmnt Min	36%	35%
Niagr Mhwk	14%	14%
Nike	45%	45%
NL Indstrs	12%	13
Nordstrm	35%	35%
Norfk Sthn	44%	44%
Norwest	25%	25%
Nthn St Pwr	35%	36%
Nthn Telcm	31%	31%
NY Times	22%	22%
Nynex	72	71%
Occid Petrl	18%	18%
Ohio Edi	18%	18%
Oracle Sys	9	8%

	Mar 28 midday	Mar 27 close
Oryx Enrgy	34%	34%
Pac Ent	36%	36%
Pac Gas Elec	26	26
Pac Telesis	42%	42%
Paccar	40%	40%
Pacificorp	22	22
Pall	34%	33%
Paramount	40%	40
Parker-Hanfn	25%	25%
Penney	53%	54
Pennzoil	75%	75
Pepsico	34%	34%
Pfizer	109	107%
Philips Pet	28%	28%
Philips Elec	19%	19%
Phlp Morris	66%	66%
Phlps Dodge	66%	66%
Pitney Bow	52%	52%
Plcr Dome	14	13%
PNC Fncl	32%	32%
Prndle Estn	14%	15
Polaroid	26	24%
PPG Inds	48%	49%
Prctr Gmble	85%	84%
Price	46%	45
Primerica	30%	30%
Pub Service	27%	27%
Quaker Oats	59%	58%
Ralston Pur	58%	58%
Raychem	25%	25%
Raytheon	82%	83%
Reebok	23%	24
Roadway	49%	50
Rockwell	28%	27%
Rohm Haas	46%	45%
Royal Dutch	78	78%
Rubbermaid	60%	60%
Rynlds Mtl	59%	59%
Safeco	40%	40%
Salomon	28%	28%
Sant Fe Pac	7%	7%
Sara Lee	39%	39%
Schecorp	40	39%
Schlumbgr	56%	58%
Schrg-Plgh	49%	49%
Scott Papr	40%	39%
Seagram	93%	93%
Sears Rbk	35%	35%
Secrty Pac	24%	25
Shrwn-Wlms	43%	43%
Skyline	16%	16%
Snap-on Tls	32%	31%
Southern	28%	28%
St Paul	70	69%
Stanley Wk	35%	35%
Stone Cntr	15%	14%
Sun Co	32%	32%
Suntst Bk	27%	27%
Super Valu	27%	27%
SW Bell	55%	55%
Syntex	78%	78%
Sysco	35%	35%
Tandem	13%	13%
Tandy	32%	32%
Tele-comm	14%	14%
Teledyne	21%	22%
Temple-In	36%	37%
Tenneco	42%	43%
Texaco	64%	63%
Texas Inst	39%	40
Texas Util	36%	36%
Textron	31%	31%
Time Wmr	106%	105%
Times Mirr	27%	27%
Timken	25%	25%
Torchmark	56%	56%
Toys R Us	27%	27%
Transam	38%	38%
Travelers	23%	23%
Tribune	42	41%
TRW	41	40%
Tyco Lab	47	46%
UAL	148%	148%
Un Camp	41%	40%
Un Carbide	17%	17%
Un Pacific	73	72%
Unilever	84%	84%
Unisys	4%	5%
Unocal	26%	26%
Upjohn	45%	47
US West	39	39
Usair Gp	19%	19%
USF&G	9%	9%
US Life	41	40%
UST	44	43%
USX	31%	31%
Utd Tech	48%	48%
Utd Telcm	24%	24%
VF	28%	28%
Wal-Mart	39%	39%
Waste Mgmt	39%	39%
Wells Fargo	74%	74%
Westg Elec	29%	29%
Weyrhsr	24	24
Whirlpool	29%	28%
Whitman	26%	25%
Winn-Dixie	37	36%
Woolworth	33%	33%
Wrigley	60%	60%
Wrnr-Lamb	74%	74%
Xerox	56%	56%

Sterling's anchor is losing its grip

COMMENT

As everyone knows, the British economy is now firmly anchored against inflation by the mark. But is the anchor beginning to slip? International investors have suddenly become convinced that Germany is heading for stagnation or inflation or both. And to judge by their behaviour in the money markets, the British Treasury and Bank of England may be jumping to the same conclusion, with alarming consequences for interest rates.

If the Chancellor really believed in his own ERM credo — that maintaining sterling's exchange rate against the mark is the necessary and sufficient condition for overcoming inflation — he could surely have given the economy some more interest rate relief this week. At the very least, the Bank would be signalling another base rate cut now that sterling had jumped from the bottom of the ERM to the second position from the top.

Instead, the money market has given up all its earlier hopes of 11 per cent base rates by summer. The three-month interbank rate of 12¼ per cent is now discounting a cut of only half a point, and then not before mid-May. And the hints dropped by both the Chancellor and the Governor in their appearances this week before the Commons Treasury Committee suggested that for once the money market might be right. Official thinking seems to be back in the "if it's not hurting it's not working" mode. Inflation, not recession, seems to be back as public enemy number one and there seems to be precious little consolation in the pound's hitting a five-month high against the mark.

There are two ways of looking at the government's refusal to cut rates further in response to the ERM signal. Most obviously, the Treasury may think the pound's strength, which is a mirror image of the mark's general weakness, is a brief aberration. Conceivably, the Treasury may even know of a G7 plan for concerted action to reverse the fall of the mark after Easter. There may, however, be a more fundamental and dangerous reason why the government is again passing up an obvious opportunity to ease monetary policy.

When interest rates were cut from 14 to 13½ per cent in February, the pound was languishing at the bottom of the ERM at DM2.90, but the Treasury and Bank both pointed proudly to the way that sterling's trade-weighted exchange rate had jumped by almost 2 per cent in the previous month. At 94.5 the trade-weighted index was almost exactly at the level at which it settled shortly after ERM entry in October. This argument, which is essentially one about the pound's performance against the dollar, can now be exactly reversed. While sterling has soared to DM2.97, its trade-weighted index, which closed yesterday at 92.4, has fallen to levels not seen since last summer. It is all too easy for the Treasury to conclude, therefore, that the pound is not "really" strong and that another cut in base rates is unjustified.

If the Chancellor wants to engage in virility tests not only against mark, but also against the dollar, we can probably say goodbye to hopes of economic recovery this summer.

TSB woes

TSB's shakeup of its errant merchant bank subsidiary, Hill Samuel, just before Budget Day was read as the end of an unhappy affair. It is now clear that the damage wreaked by the merchant bank on its parent will linger a while yet.

Last year Hill Samuel made losses of £40 million after striking £156 million of provisions against its loan book. Now Sir Nicholas Goodison, TSB's chairman, feels it prudent to set aside further substantial sums as Hill Samuel's corporate loan experience proceeds from bad to worse.

He gave no details but the exposure must indeed be grim, for half time profits for the whole group are now expected to be a great deal worse than last year. The latest setback will be a bitter one indeed for the angry shareholders who protested back in 1987 that TSB was paying far over the odds for Hill Samuel. The bid was launched before the world stock market crash in 1987. Many companies in this position withdrew takeover plans but TSB's management took the highly controversial decision to plough ahead.

TSB was over capitalised at the time of its market debut and the City feared that mistakes might be made in the rush to diversify away from its predominantly retail customer base. So it has proved.

TSB has already parted company with Target, the unit trust and life assurance group, the other early acquisition along with Hill Samuel. Total losses on Target amounted to almost £300 million taking account of the acquisition price and subsequent losses.

These corporate disasters have resulted in TSB showing no gain in shareholder assets for three straight years — a period incidentally when the former core business of retail savings and loans has been in healthy condition. Sir Nicholas, who came aboard long after the damaging acquisitions were made, is now taking harsh steps to put his leaky ship into good order.

So he should, for the post-flotation restriction on shareholdings above 5 per cent expires in September. Unless the sails are set fair by then a cheap bid from European banks such as Dresdner, Indosuez or BNP is a strong possibility.

Freer forex is golden opportunity in Zimbabwe

ZIMBABWE, independent for 11 years on April 18 and vying with the rest of southern Africa for western development capital, is blessed with extensive mineral resources, but its mining industry is frustrated by bureaucracy.

This week, Zimbabwe signed a $75 million one-year loan with a consortium of international banks with the object of modernising its cash-starved mining industry.

If government is true to its intentions, Zimbabwe's mining sector should attract wider and more serious international attention. If not, Zimbabwe will have by-passed possibly its last chance for many years of attracting increased foreign attention, so vital if its minerals wealth is to be properly and extensively developed.

Zimbabwe's deposits include gold, nickel, asbestos, coal, copper, cobalt, iron ore and tin. Its chromite deposits are estimated at well over half of the world's total reserves. There are also platinum group metals, and diamonds.

Those in mining circles, however, are frustrated that life is not made easy by the limited supply from government of foreign exchange, which mining companies need to import capital equipment and spares to keep operations running efficiently. The sector, which is second only to agriculture in the generation of foreign exchange, wants a more sympathetic hand in the carving up of the foreign exchange cake. If exchange allocations were more generous relative to the sector's contribution, mining would materially be able to generate more foreign exchange than it does already.

Mining contributes more than 40 per cent of Zimbabwe's foreign earnings. Production of various minerals is valued at Z$1.35 billion (£262 million) a year — yet the sector's foreign currency slice is well below 10 per cent of its exchange earning capacity. This is is a major bone of contention.

Algy Cluff, chairman of Cluff Resources and Cluff Resources Zimbabwe, now listed in Harare, last week voiced the complaints of many about foreign exchange allocations at CRZ's maiden annual meeting. CRZ, he noted, was responsible for 15 per cent of Zimbabwe's gold output and 5 per cent of foreign exchange receipts.

Exchange optimism: Algy Cluff of Cluff Resources

Cluff, the operator of Freda/Rebecca, which lies north of Harare and is Zimbabwe's largest producing gold mine, remains optimistic that the government will recognize the stranglehold that limited exchange allowances place on the gold mining industry.

Meanwhile, Cluff's corporate ambition to expand is not blunted. The group, the first foreign company of note to move into Zimbabwe after independence in 1980, is exploring extensively for mineral finds that could widen its range of interests from gold to industrial minerals, vanadium, platinum, and possibly diamonds. Zimbabwe is also searching for oil, in which Cluff has expertise.

However, while the new pioneers in Zimbabwe are still full of exploration enthusiasm, other foreign mining flags, first raised when Zimbabwe was Rhodesia, today fly with less gusto. RTZ has long been associated with the area, as has Lonrho. Delta Gold, of Australia, is conducting feasibility studies on platinum deposits in the Great Dyke. BHP/Utah is also there. But South African mining flags are lifeless, and all mining companies are watching with unease Zimbabwean government moves to make forfeit certain diamond claims of De Beers.

The political and social development roads that Zimbabwe plans to tread are unclear, and concern about the form of socialism that president Robert Mugabe still cherishes make many international mining chairmen uneasy.

The positive aspects are that the Zimbabwe Reserve Bank has a gold price support system guaranteeing a minimum price for gold. There is remittability of a certain percentage of profits and dividends, and profits can still be made out of mining. The government's economic tablet, *Framework for Economic Reform 1991-1995*, contains a number of measures that would make Zimbabwe an *investors' paradise*.

However, while new pioneers are willing to invest fresh capital, old pioneers are staying their hand. They are more likely to re-cycle local profits than invest fresh funds. The argument that there are other more attractive territories in southern Africa — Botswana, Namibia, the "new" South Africa, and, for its mineral potential, even Mozambique — are compelling.

Gold is easy to market worldwide through central banks. Zimbabwe's insistence, however, that its minerals be handled by the state-controlled Minerals Marketing Corporation does not readily make international mining groups want to rush to invest risk capital in the land between the Zambezi and the Limpopo.

The western world's prospecting companies, turning Cecil John Rhodes' words on their head, point to Zimbabwe's foreign exchange controls and say that in their liberalisation lies Zimbabwe's salvation.

COLIN CAMPBELL
Mining Correspondent

GRE hardly a tempting target

TEMPUS

Composite insurance groups are sitting ducks for aggressive and protected continental rivals. Guardian Royal Exchange is one of the most vulnerable, but would bidders really care to pounce just yet?

Neglecting the Italian venture from which GRE wisely extricated itself for an overall net loss of £68 million, the group swung from pre-tax profits of £160 million in 1989 to its first pre-tax loss of £157 million in 1990, equivalent to 17.2p per share net.

After a defiant 10 per cent rise in the interim dividend, the final was held, but dividends still cost £103 million, contributing to a fall in net assets from £1.64 billion to £940 million. Assets per share fell 43 per cent to 109p at the year end, though the rise in stock markets has since lifted that to 130p and the relatively small life side could be worth another 40p-50p.

Most things went wrong last year. Storm and subsidence cost £70 million in Britain alone and there was a general deterioration in claims. Profits from Germany fell 70 per cent to £7 million and currencies moved the wrong way.

The bright spots were the Irish motor business, where losses were cut from £46 million to £18 million, and profit improvements in Canada and America.

Premium increases are still a struggle, while reinsurance and VAT will add to costs. Management is on its mettle but Christopher Pountain of Morgan Stanley still expects GRE to make another small loss this year. A static 7.4 per cent dividend yield is the main support for the shares at 215p. Bid hopes are there, but may have to wait.

SD-Scicon

SD-SCICON retains an ability to astound the City. Although the company's trading record last year surprised nobody, the scale of the latest provisions stunned even seasoned Scicon followers.

Exceptional costs of £24.8 million were charged against heavy losses arising from long-term fixed price contracts awarded by the public sector, some dating back to 1987. The company failed to get to grips with the size and cost of the task it was undertaking and is still paying the price.

Further restructuring took place at a cost of £16.7 million, charged as an extraordinary item, as Systems Designers and Scicon continued to integrate almost three years after their merger.

To fathom the depth of the problems at Scicon these charges should be added to provisions of around £6.5 million charged in the previous year. The market is not yet convinced that the problems are over.

Trading has suffered and operating profits have fallen from £9.2 million to £6.2 million. With losses per share plunging from 1.20p to 12.42p, a maintained dividend of 0.75p for the year seems eccentric but the company insists it is over the worst.

Assuming this is the case, a penny of earnings may be achieved in the current year but the shares still look overpriced, particularly with British Aerospace's 25 per cent stake hanging over the market.

Laporte

LAPORTE, the specialist chemicals group, can say goodbye to an earnings growth target of 15 per cent — now ruined after 1990's results — but it can still claim record pre-tax profits for the year ended December.

There can be relief that, despite the harder times, the final, along with the earlier interim dividend, goes up, making 17.8p (15.7p) for the year. Pre-tax profits, at £109.2 million (£100.3 million), were struck without the benefit of any above-the-line property profits (£4 million previously)

Of its six divisions, most are not sensitive to recession, so it will be up to management rather than economic rebounds to see an 11th year of successive profits growth this year. May's rights issue left it with year-end net cash balances of £34 million. But earnings a share are down from 48.1p to 44.4p.

Pre-tax profits of £118 million are likely rather than the £127 million that might otherwise have been expected in 1991 and, at 574p, up 5p, the shares trade on 12.2 times prospective earnings.

If Laporte can make money when times are tough, it should find life easier once conditions brighten. On those grounds, the shares are a hold.

THE TIMES CITY DIARY

Getting back to basics

THE fast returning fashion for small, partnership stockbroking firms will be boosted further before the end of next month when yet another band of men, disenchanted with life in bigger, more impersonal firms, strike out on their own. Leigh Collins, Andrew Stewart, Michael Whittaker and Terry Hitchcock, former partners of Simon & Coates, which became part of Chase Securities, will be founding partners of Collins Stewart. They hope to have the business up and running by April 22, provided they receive the necessary regulatory approval in time. Singer & Friedlander, the merchant bank, which has no stockbroking activities of its own, will own 51 per cent of Collins Stewart and has granted it office space within its Bishopsgate building. The four founders are understood to have chipped in a total of about £700,000 to fund the firm, and total staff will be eight by the launch date. Among them will be Stephen Tweedie, aged 43, a former dealing partner at Vivian Gray who was made redundant from Hoare Govett in December, and Willie Poole, a sales trader who is ex-James Capel. "The idea is to get back to fundamentals," says Tweedie. "We will be doing institutional agency business, although we will also be making markets in preference shares. It's very exciting to be returning to a smaller, more personal firm." He is due to start on Tuesday.

League shake-up

JAMES Capel, Warburg and BZW will find it hard to hold on to the top three places in the annual Extel analysts' survey, due out this summer. Questionnaires for the 1991 survey are being sent to fund managers in the next few days, and may herald a few unpleasant surprises for the former top players. "We can expect a major shake-up in the league tables," predicts Geoffrey Osmint, who launched the survey while at Continental Illinois in 1974 and has compiled it since. "It's been a very rough and tough year for the analysts, and quite a big change in the top five is likely." Among the top players, UBS Phillips & Drew is tipped to climb the ladder from its position in fifth place, while others such as Hoare Govett, which has lost several analysts in the past few months, could move in the opposite direction.

Deadly business

AS if the retail trade had not been through enough of late, it is now being pigeon-holed — in America at least — as the most dangerous place for a woman to work. New statistics show that the leading cause of fatal work-related injuries among American women is murder. Over a six year period, homicides accounted for 42 per cent of the 2,262 fatal injuries striking women at work. According to America's Centre for Disease Control, the comparable figure for men is 12 per cent. Of 960 women killed while working, most worked in retail stores or service industries. And almost two-thirds of them died of gunshot wounds inflicted by robbers.

BRITAIN'S electricity companies have, it seems, mastered the art of releasing bad news in the most subtle way. Southern Electric has announced "a major series of customer service initiatives to reduce the impact of a tariff increase resulting mainly from a level of inflation not anticipated when . . ." before finally reaching the point four paragraphs later: it is raising charges by 10.9 per cent.

Marathon fever

RACE-FEVER is hotting up. The 34,500 entrants in the ADT London Marathon on April 21 include 916 accountants, 791 bankers, 103 company chairmen and presidents, 79 financial analysts, 78 stockbrokers, 31 economists and 16 International Stock Exchange employees. Rocco Forte, super-fit chairman of Trusthouse Forte, has once again entered and is said to be training hard. Last year he had to drop out after straining a muscle. Michael Ashcroft, chairman of ADT, is, as usual, not running, but has challenged Sebastian Coe to join the throng. Even 94 journalists have put their names down. But top of the list among professional groups, for some reason, is the engineering sector — 14,063 mechanical engineers have signed up for the big day.

SIGN on the back of a car in Exeter: "If you drink, don't drive. Practise safety thirst."

CAROL LEONARD

GUARDIAN ROYAL EXCHANGE

RESULTS FOR THE YEAR

★ Premium Income up 5%
★ Dividend up 3.5% ★ Pre-Tax Loss £157.2m

Summary of Results for the year ended 31st December 1990

	1990* £m	1989* £m
Premiums –		
short-term business	2038.1	1,941.2
long-term business	808.7	785.0
Investment income	278.7	282.8
Underwriting results –		
short-term business	(460.7)	(150.6)
long-term business	24.8	27.3
Profit/(Loss) before taxation	(157.2)	159.5
Taxation and minorities	(9.3)	56.7
Profit/(Loss) attributable to shareholders	(147.9)	102.8
Extraordinary item	(51.0)	–
Discontinued unconsolidated subsidiaries	(15.8)	(51.7)
	(214.7)	51.1
Earnings per share	(17.2)p	12.0p
Dividend per share	11.9p	11.5p
Shareholders' funds	£942.4m	£1642.9m

*The figures relating to the Italian short-term business operations have been shown under the heading 'Discontinued unconsolidated subsidiaries'.

The results in this statement for the year 1990 do not constitute full group accounts. The full group accounts, on which the auditors have not yet reported, will be circulated to shareholders on 25th April 1991 and delivered to the Registrar of Companies after approval at the Annual General Meeting which will be held on 22nd May 1991.

The proposed final dividend of 7.5p per share will be paid on 1st July 1991 to shareholders on the register at the close of business on 11th April 1991.

GUARDIAN ROYAL EXCHANGE LONDON EC3V 3LS TELEPHONE 071-283 7101

THE TIMES UNIT TRUST INFORMATION SERVICE

	Bid	Offer	Chng	Yld
ABBEY UNIT TRUST MANAGERS				
80, Holborn Bars Rd, Southampton SH3 8AL Tel: (0345 717373 (Lockline)				
Gilt/Fixed	112.2	119.0e	+0.4	9.67
High Inc Equity	139.6	148.5e	+0.7	8.72
Worldw Bond	203.0	215.2e	-0.4	8.67
Amer Growth	190.1	203.3	+2.1	0.86
Asian Pacific	125.9	133.9	+0.8	0.18
Europe/Euros	171.4	188.7	+0.6	2.49
Capit Aps	143.6	153.7e	+0.1	7.32
Comm/Energy	70.2e	81.85e	-0.81	0.62
Euro Capit	83.1e	88.0e	-0.1e	1.48
General	170.2	182.0e	+1.3	3.76
Japan	88.8	102.7	-1.1	0.00
UK Gth Inc	103.2	110.3e	-0.1	2.18
Do Acc	156.6	167.5e	..	2.17
US Emerg Cos	81.2e	86.5e	+0.2e	0.00
Income/Gilts	335.5	355.0	+2.6	4.99
Managed Acc	87.87	93.87	-0.18	2.27
Am Inc	49.84	50.09e	-0.27	6.63
Ethical	49.10	52.61	+0.14	2.80
ABTRUST MANAGEMENT LTD				
10, Queens Terrace, Aberdeen AB9 1QJ Tel: 0224 632618 dealing (Freephone) 0800 831036				
30, Finsbury Circus, London EC2M 7DQ Tel: 071-374 8921				
Am Inc/Gth	28.9e	30.70e	+0.09	2.60
Euro	70.04	75.19e	-0.07	0.00
Euro Inc	74.1e	78.22e	-0.10	1.67
Europa	750.1	777.0e	+9.9	2.99
Extra Inc	33.8e	43.19e	+0.4e	5.60
F/E Emerg Eo	50.7e	54.5e	-0.07	1.16
ALLIED DUNBAR UNIT TRUSTS				
Allied Dunbar Centre, Swindon SN1 1EL Tel: 0793 514014 dealing 0793 615179				
High Inc	360.4	383.6e	+4.5	8.05
Equity Inc	196.3	209.0	+2.1	5.30
High Yield	208.0	222.5	+2.4	8.10
Balanced	531.0	565.5	+5.0	9.43
Am Inc	33.1e	35.3e	+0.4e	3.97
World Acc Vol	31.77	33.82	+0.17	1.91
Japan	134.9	142.8	-0.6	0.01
Sec of Am	296.3	316.5	+6.6	0.27
BARCLAYS UNICORN				
Unicorn House, 252, Romford Rd E7 Tel: 081-534 5944				
Capit	57.91	64.52e	+1.09	3.82
Euro Gth Inc	90.32	96.34	-0.09	1.66
Extra Inc	99.11	105.0e	-0.89	6.04
General	198.1	208.7e	+1.7	3.93
Gt/Fixd Income	59.44	62.28e	..	10.27
Inc Trust	436.3	465.6	+2.1	5.78
BARING FUND MANAGERS				
PO Box 158, Dunbridge, Kent BR8 4XG Tel: 071-628 6032				
Amer Gth	63.7e	67.52	+1.73	0.50
Am Sm Coe	68.2e	72.41	+1.07	0.30
Australia	52.7e	56.6e	+0.09	1.80
Convertible	44.17	46.97e	+0.11	8.59
East	128.9	137.4e	..	1.30
Equity Inc	78.2e	83.2e	+1.2e	6.30
Euro Gth	176.5	188.9	+0.5	2.70
Euro Smlr Cos	150.7	160.2	-1.3	1.20
Europe	67.72	69.86	+0.27	4.10
German Gth	44.2e	48.9e	+0.14	0.60
Global Gth	76.4e	84.57	+0.06	0.10
Jap Gth	162.3	173.8	+0.5	0.00
Jap Sunrise	140.0	149.5e	+1.2	0.00
Pacific	65.07	67.09e	+0.13	3.70
Do Acc	156.3	163.1e	+1.3	3.70
UK Growth	56.4e	60.0e	+1.0e	3.90
UK Smlr Cos	70.9e	76.6e	+1.3e	3.00
Select Mgt	53.61	57.03e	+0.44	2.40
BRITANNIA LIFE UNIT MANAGERS LTD				
103, West George St, Glasgow G2 2PA Tel: 041-332 3132				
Balan Gth Acc	76.8e	84.32e	+0.57	3.16
Do Inc	74.3e	80.15e	+0.35	5.19
Global Bond	22.43	23.98	-0.03	8.88
High Yield Acc	41.1e	43.99e	+0.27	9.12
Do Inc	33.2e	35.58e	+0.22	9.12
Inc Gth Acc	64.6e	69.1e	+0.33	5.36
Do Inc	47.4e	50.7e	+0.24	5.36
Service Co Acc	66.2e	70.8e	+1.82	2.65
Do Inc	63.6e	68.0e	+1.3e	2.65
Am Opp Acc	30.7e	32.8e	+0.3e	2.11
Do Inc	30.1e	32.2e	+0.3e	2.11
Euro Gth Acc	28.6e	29.45e	-0.06	1.43
Do Inc	26.1e	27.62e	-0.06	1.43
Managed Port	24.62	26.5e	+0.1e	6.69
BROWN SHIPLEY				
8-17, Tarrnwood Rd, Haywards Heath Tel: 0444 454144				
Financial	118.5	126.7e	+0.7	3.73
Smlr Cos Acc	189.6	203.3e	..	0.80
Do Inc	117.1	125.9e	..	0.80
High Inc	69.6e	74.03e	+0.62	5.91
Income	103.5	111.3e	+0.8	4.87
Man Port Inc	83.4e	89.5e	+0.2	2.32
Do Acc	151.7	162.7	+1.1	2.32
Nth Amer	70.2e	75.5e	+1.03	0.29
Orient	108.4	114.4	+0.6	0.39
Europe	222.6	239.2	+2.6	4.53
Recov	35.84	38.4e	+0.23	2.37
German	34.15	36.6	-0.47	0.11
Intl Recov	27.45	29.23	+0.20	0.27
Europa	20.13	21.6e	-0.13	0.52
Conv Bond	19.03	20.27e	-0.02	8.36
BUCKMASTER MANAGEMENT				
Beaufort Hse 15 St Botolph St London EC3A 7JU Tel: 071-247 7474 Dealing: 071-247 4842				
Fellowship Inc	54.4b	57.59e	-0.22	2.94
Do Acc	58.6b	62.41e	-0.24	2.94
Inc Fund 3	170.1	181.0	+2.2	5.26
Do Acc 3	363.3	378.8	+4.8	5.26
Inc Port Inc	33.07	35.8b	+0.35	3.12
Do Acc	57.30	59.3b	+0.62	3.12
Smlr Inc 5	98.41	104.7	+0.19	3.29
Do Acc	112.0	119.2	+0.1	3.29
Hi Inc Prt Inc	47.87	49.65b	+0.05	8.05
BURRAGE UNIT TRUST MANAGEMENT LTD				
117 Fenchurch Street London EC3M 5AL Tel: 071-488 7215				
Gilt Gt Fxd Int	90.04	93.91b	+0.03	7.51
CIS UNIT MANAGERS LTD				
PO Box 105 Manchester M60 0AH Tel: 061-832 8282				
Europe	101.1	107.6	+0.8	2.26
UK Growth	112.5	118.7e	+1.1	2.67
UK Income	110.0	117.1e	+1.1	5.45
CANNON FUND MANAGERS				
1, Olympic Way, Wembley Middx HA9 0NN Tel: 081-902 8876				
ISE Asia	48.1b	52.59e	+0.33	2.17
Growth	35.7b	41.45e	+0.14	4.49
Income	48.7l	52.1b	+0.05	6.18
Far East	38.7b	41.46e	-0.03	0.84
Nth Amer	46.8b	53.32e	+0.69	0.06
Global	54.6b	58.39e	+0.65	1.60
European	68.3b	84.59e	-0.78	1.40
Japan	97.8	104.8	+0.1	0.01
Strategic Opp	45.4l	51.6b	-0.41	2.89
Intl Currency	47.07	49.63e	-0.15	8.69
CAPEL-CURE BYRES UNIT TRUST MANAGERS LTD				
35 Fenchurch Street, Manchester M3 2AF Tel: 061-236 5693 Dealings: 061-236 5362				
Capability Trusts				
Am & Gen	84.94	90.37e	..	0.76
Do Acc	90.2b	96.03e	..	0.75
European	36.6l	60.1b	..	1.49
Do Acc	67.9l	61.5b	..	1.49
F Eas/Gen	49.7b	52.93	..	0.00
Do Acc	49.7b	52.9b	..	0.00
Gearshare	272.3	289.9e	..	2.38
Do Acc	341.1	364.5e	..	2.38
Growth	374.2	391.8e	..	3.34
Inc Acc	448.2	474.7b	..	3.34
Inc Acc Inc	322.9	343.0	..	5.36
Do Acc	392.1	417.2	..	5.36
Master Portf	320.5l	34.7b	..	3.37
Do Acc	389.3b	69.0b	..	3.37
Spec Sits	60.0b	64.8b	..	3.40
Do Acc	67.8b	72.1b	..	3.40
Smlr Fund				
High Yld Gmt	210.2p	10.8l	..	5.82
Do Acc	210.6l	11.2b	..	5.82
CAPEL (JAMES) MANAGEMENT				
PO Box 352 7 Devonshire Square, London EC2M 4YD Tel: 071-626 0600 071-929 0303				
Amer Index	142.8	152.3e	+0.4	2.20
Capel	465.0	496.3e	+6.6	0.00
Euro Index	165.9	113.0e	+0.6	2.20
Euro Growth	69.6b	74.34	+0.48	2.33
Far East S S	66.4b	70.91	+0.18	0.62
Gold Gen S S	56.4b	60.2b	+0.45	5.14
Japan	448.0	478.6e	+6.8	0.33
Inc Gth	61.2b	65.3l	+0.70	2.14
Jap Index	64.6b	69.02e	-0.29	0.16
N Amer	204.7	218.6e	+4.2	1.72
Tiger Index	89.7b	95.7b	+0.91	1.69
UK Index	105.3	112.3	+1.6	4.17
CAZENOVE UNIT TRUST MANAGEMENT LTD				
16 Tokenhouse Yard, London EC2R 7AN Tel: 071-606 0791				
Amer Portf	84.64	88.44	+1.07	2.43
Euro Port	60.6b	64.62e	-0.85	1.29
Jap Port	44.6b	47.72	+0.35	1.29
Pacific Portf	58.4b	60.8b	+0.25	2.56
Portf	57.6l	61.6b	-0.03	2.09
UK Inc/Gth	66.7b	69.7b	-0.10	7.11
CENTRAL BOARD OF FINANCE OF CHURCH OF ENGLAND				
2, Fore Street, London EC2Y 5AQ Tel: 071-588 1815				
Inv	617.0	652.2b	..	5.43
Fixed Int	137.0	137.7b	..	10.53
Deposit	100.0	..	..	13.23
CHARITIES OFFICIAL INVESTMENT FUND				
2, Fore Street, London EC2Y 5AQ Tel: 071-588 1815				
Income	488.0	498.7e	..	5.69
Acc	617.3l	77.4b	..	..
Deposit	100.0	..	..	13.00
Fixed Int Inc	110.8	110.8c	..	10.50
Do Acc	119.0	119.2e	..	..
CHINA UNIT TRUST MANAGERS LTD				
1 White Hart Yard London Bridge SE1 4PH Tel: 081-403 3030				
Euro Gth	79.6b	85.07	-0.39	1.58
1992 Euro Spc	69.2l	73.6b	-0.37	1.57
Intl Inc	64.5b	69.4b	-0.41	3.46
NAm Gth	47.3l	51.1b	+0.46	1.51
Pacific Gth	73.0l	78.0b	-0.56	1.92
Do Gth Acc	83.5l	88.5b	-0.64	1.92
Do Dist	74.3l	79.3b	-0.57	2.01
UK Income	62.8b	67.9b	+0.58	6.85
CITY FINANCIAL UNIT TRUST MANAGERS LTD				
1 Mitre Hse Yard London Bridge SE1 9AT Tel: 071-407 5866				
Assets	48.8l	51.4b	..	3.84
Back Int Cp Ac	61.0b	62.6l	-0.01	5.64
Fixe Hse Inc	168.7	178.6	..	9.51
Fixe Hse Cap	198.2	207.9	..	2.61
COMMERCIAL UNION TRUST MANAGERS				
St Helen's, 1, Undershaft, London EC3P 3DQ Tel: 071-283 7500 Dealing: 081-686 8818				
Am Gth	72.6l	77.23e	+1.6l	2.16
Euro Gth	78.5l	83.6l	+0.3l	1.70
Far East	71.3l	76.5l	+0.6l	0.00
Inc	53.6l	57.0b	-0.41	5.26
Do Acc	74.9l	79.6b	+0.6l	5.26
Jap Gth	35.0l	37.8l	+0.03	0.00
Monthly Inc	42.3l	46.0b	+0.04	12.11
Private Inv Pt	51.3l	54.6l	+0.3l	5.36
Do Acc	57.7l	61.4l	+0.4l	5.36
Profess Inv Pt	57.7l	61.3l	+0.6l	3.89
Prop Inc Pt	58.8l	63.1l	+0.3l	5.36
Smlr Cos Inc	28.6l	31.5b	+0.05	3.65
Do Acc	31.8l	35.0b	+0.05	3.65
UK/Gen Inc	61.3l	65.2l	+0.6l	4.21
Do Acc	68.1l	73.2l	+0.8l	4.21
Worldw Bond	46.6l	49.3b	+0.3l	5.77
Worldw Sp Sts	45.7l	48.9l	+0.3l	1.28
Do accum	47.1l	50.4l	+0.3l	1.28
Outlier Gen Inc	101.2l	108.4b	-1.8l	3.67
Outlier Inc Acc	98.0l	104.3	+0.8l	5.37
Outlier Intl Acc	101.6	108.0	+0.8	1.08
COMMERCIAL UNION PRESTIGE FUND MANAGEMENT				
(Formerly Royal Trust Fund Management)				
Pacific Basin	171.4	182.3b	-0.06	0.02
Financial/Prop	57.6l	62.5b	+0.42	3.46
Fixed/Conv	53.3b	56.4b	-0.03	11.68
Do Acc	76.4b	80.2b	-0.27	10.68
Equity Acc	128.3	136.5e	+1.12	5.73
Do Acc	368.5	393.1e	-8.22	5.73
High Yield Inc	100.3	113.1e	-0.49	8.63
Do Acc	357.9	380.7e	+1.62	8.63
Intl Inc	86.0b	90.4b	+0.49	1.74
Do Acc	91.5l	97.7b	+0.53	1.74
Preferences Inc	37.2l	39.6e	+1.74	11.01
Do Acc	162.9	173.3e	-7.65	11.01
PPT Canada	46.3b	48.3b	+0.44	0.00
PPT Commod	49.0l	52.1b	+0.69	4.29
PPT Europe	122.0	129.7	+0.87	0.68
PPT Global	57.2l	61.0l	+1.57	4.06
PPT Gold	30.4b	32.4l	+0.15	0.00
PPT Thai	47.2b	50.4b	+0.61	0.00
PPT UK	44.0b	47.7	+0.15	1.78
PPT Jap	105.1	111.8	-0.72	0.00
PPT Stg/M	67.5l	73.3b	+0.57	0.00
PPT UK	96.3b	104.1	+1.41	1.66
PPT US	96.8b	101.7	+1.64	1.32
PPT Gth	64.0b	68.1b	+0.02	13.50
Worldw Alpha	82.4b	86.47b	-0.68	0.00
Do Accum	84.2b	88.36b	-0.70	0.00
EFM UNIT TRUST MANAGERS				
4, Melville Crescent, Edinburgh Tel: 0345 696828				
Amer	85.3b	90.8b	+0.41	1.15
Capit	110.2	117.1	+0.2	2.57
Convertible	22.4b	23.63e	+0.18	8.15
Eurofund	30.6l	32.5l	+0.02	1.22
Emrg Mngd	139.9	144.8c	..	1.97
Extra Inc	65.4b	67.76b	+0.64	7.86
Growth/Inc	167.8	210.2e	+3.0	7.04
High Div	145.8	154.9	+1.5	6.71
High Inc	103.3	110.6b	+0.7	7.06
Intl	260.0	276.3	+2.5	1.59
Intl Inc	81.4l	85.9b	+0.45	5.40
Pacific	35.6b	38.1l	+0.19	1.00
Spec Jap Cos	61.6b	65.3l	+0.60	0.00
Tokyo	17.6b	18.7	+0.6	0.00
Eq Inc 2	163.3	167.5c	..	1.89
Eq Inc 3	118.4	121.7	-0.3	0.19
Eq Gilt Jap 4	513.5	527.5	..	0.06
EAGLE STAR UNIT TRUST MANAGERS				
Bath Road, Cheltenham, Gloucester GL53 7LQ Tel: 0242 527699				
Offshd Op Acc	69.2e	69.02	-0.02	1.26
Japanese	63.6b	67.3b	-0.60	0.00
UK Balan Inc	92.5b	98.9b	+0.63	3.52
Do Acc	103.5	110.1	+0.8	3.52
UK Gth Accum	160.7	169.3	+0.8	2.23
UK Hi Inc	119.0	130.4	+1.3	6.78
UK Hi Inc Acc	117.1	124.5	+1.3	6.78
N Amer Acc	76.1l	79.8l	+1.14	1.14
Euro Acc	101.1	107.5	-0.4	0.26
UK Gth/Pr Inc	54.4l	57.8l	+0.2l	6.31
Do Acc	75.4l	80.1l	+0.4l	6.31
Intl Sp S Acc	28.2l	30.1l	+0.0l	0.00
Emerg Cos	82.3l	86.8b	+0.3l	1.44
ENDURANCE FUND MANAGEMENT LTD				
41, Huntingdon Gardens London SW7 4HJ Tel: 071 373 7291				
Endurance	139.9	148.8	..	2.42
EQUITABLE UNIT TRUST MANAGERS LTD				
Walham Street Aylesbury, HP21 7QW Tel: 0296 434480				
Equitable Pelican	107.0	112.6e	+1.17	4.78
High Inc	110.1	116.0	+1.02	9.18
For Inv Internet	45.4l	51.0l	-0.08	5.81
T Of Inv Tr	108.4	115.2	+1.03	3.16
Spec Sits	97.7l	102.8	+0.28	4.29
N Am	72.2l	76.0l	+0.74	1.31
Far East	173.5	182.7	+1.82	1.31
Intl Gth	75.0l	79.0b	+0.66	2.68
Euro	88.2b	88.1l	+0.04	1.95
Smlr Cos	55.7b	58.7l	-0.21	5.19
EQUITY & LAW				
St. George Hse Corporation St. Coventry CV1 1BD Tel: 0203 833921				
UK Gth Accum	230.6l	245.5	+8.3	3.63
Do Inc	191.2	203.5	+2.5	3.63
Higher Inc Acc	446.5	475.1	+0.5	5.30
Do Inc	322.5	331.7	+0.9	5.30
Gilts/Fixd Acc	132.4	139.4b	+0.5	9.24
Do Inc	78.3l	83.4b	-0.18	9.24
N America	154.6	164.5	+0.5	0.00
Far East	220.2	234.3	-0.3	0.75
Europe	208.3	218.6e	+0.8	1.28
Gwrd	343.1	365.1e	+4.6	3.77
Gwrd Acc	363.3	375.0e	+5.2	3.77
Br Dominions	63.6l	68.0b	+0.72	0.50
Dr Fdmtls Inc	66.6b	69.2le	+0.09	7.11
Do Acc	88.5l	70.81e	+0.69	6.71
Global Opps	54.7l	58.2l	+0.35	0.25
FIDELITY INVESTMENT SERVICES LTD				
Oakhill House, 130 Tonbridge Road Hildenborough Kent TN11 9DZ Tel: 0800 414161				
American	162.2	180.9	+2.6	0.00
Cash Unit	127.0l	..	+0.04	13.84
European	97.6l	104.2	-0.10	0.00
Gilt/Fixed	130.3	140.3	+2.1	4.10
Inc Plus	111.2	118.3e	+1.2	8.69
UK Gth	50.9l	54.6l	+0.34	0.00
FOREIGN & COLONIAL				
8th Floor, Exchange Hse Primrose Street London EC2A 2NY Tel: 071-628 8000				
Euro Income	76.6l	84.0le	-0.04	0.30
Far East	71.4l	76.4l	-0.2	0.00
Offshore Income	95.1l	99.4l	+0.12	4.78
UK Growth	72.1l	77.1l	+0.5l	3.11
UK Inc Fund	107.2	114.6	+0.1	5.80
US Smlr Cos	121.7	130.2	+1.9	0.00
FRANKLINTON UNIT MANAGEMENT				
155, Bishopsgate London EC2M 3PT Tel: 071-374 4100				
Am Smlr Cos	241.5	261.7	+1.9	..
Do Acc	248.8	267.4	+2.0	..
Am Trust	170.5	183.3	+1.5	..
Do Acc	288.8	298.3	+4.3	..
Capel Inc	235.6	250.6e	+0.5	3.92
Do Acc	312.1	331.9e	+0.6	3.92
Cont Smlr Cos	62.0l	66.6l	+0.4l	0.95
Do Acc	42.0l	45.0l	+0.1l	0.95
Conv Inc	102.2	108.7	+0.2	7.84
Do Acc	165.5	176.2	+0.4	7.84
Euro Acc	87.6l	93.9l	+0.1l	1.56
Do Inc	85.8l	90.3l	+0.1l	1.56
Extra Inc Inc	247.2	262.9	+1.2	6.18
Do Acc	315.5	335.8	+1.5	6.18
Financial Acc	61.8l	65.6l	+0.3l	1.80
Do Inc	60.4l	64.3l	+0.2l	1.80
Inc Trust	163.9	174.3	+1.2	5.84
Do Acc	208.8	218.7	+1.5	5.84
Intl Gth	214.7	231.3	+4.3	1.61
Do Acc	238.4	255.5	+4.2	..
Jap & Gen Inc	148.9	160.1e	+0.1	..
Do Acc	161.4	161.7e	+0.1	..
Managed Port Inc	235.4	251.7e	+0.2l	1.68
Do Acc	75.3l	79.1le	+0.3l	1.68
Monthly Inc	124.3	132.2e	+0.2	6.17
Recov	198.5	216.3	+1.5	1.81
Smlr Inc	223.3	240.5	+1.5	1.61
Do Acc	40.7l	43.3le	-0.11	4.60
Smlr Inc	44.1l	46.9le	-0.11	4.60
Gth Gth Inc	57.4l	62.2le	-0.13	5.11
Do Acc	62.3l	67.5le	-0.14	5.11
Gth Inc Inc	57.7l	59.5le	-0.13	9.06
Do Acc	69.0l	65.0le	-0.14	9.06
FRIENDS PROVIDENT MANAGERS				
Castle Street, Salisbury, Wilts SP1 3SH Tel: Dealing: 0722 411411 Admin: 0722 411922				
Equity Dist	271.8	289.9	+2.34	3.61
Do Acc	913.5	949.3	+7.86	3.61
Euro Gth Dist	87.7	93.5le	-0.44	0.00
Do Acc	88.7	94.4le	-0.44	0.00
Fixed Int Dist	112.2	118.6le	-0.58	8.46
Do Acc	171.3	181.2le	-0.88	8.46
Intl Gth Dist	81.0l	86.4le	-0.42	1.34
Do Acc	82.2l	88.2l	+0.05	0.84
Nam Gth Dist	132.2	140.6	-0.35	1.34
Do Acc	140.0	149.0	-0.37	1.34
Pan Basin Dist	192.1	204.1	-0.44	0.00
Do Acc	194.3	206.7	+0.64	0.22
Stud Dist	237.0	252.2	+0.69	2.50
Do Acc	288.4	293.4	+0.82	2.50
Smlr Cos Dist	93.4l	99.5le	+0.04	4.07
Do Acc	99.5	93.3e	..	4.07
Nam Gwd Dist	66.0l	70.2l	-0.12	0.49
Do Acc	69.2l	73.6l	-0.13	0.42
GT UNIT MANAGERS				
8th Floor, 5, Devonshire Sq, London EC2M 4YJ Tel: 071-283 2575 Dealing: 071-588 8131				
Am Sp Sits	77.7l	83.14e	+0.56	0.00
UK Disp Inc	145.7	155.8	+1.3	5.97
Do Acc	234.2	251.2	+2.6	5.97
Do Spec Sits	49.0l	52.4l	+0.5l	2.19
Inc Fund	104.5	111.8e	+0.6	7.22
Intl	176.5	188.4e	+0.3	1.33
US/Gen'l	81.9l	85.8b	+0.5l	0.46
Jap & Gen'l	363.4	388.1e	+0.7	0.00
Far East/Gen	190.6	195.0	-0.5	1.24
Euro	316.3	338.9e	+0.9	0.38
Germany	82.7l	87.7l	-0.1l	0.00
Intl Inc	83.6l	87.7le	+0.5l	5.88
World Spec Sit	71.0l	76.0le	+0.3l	0.00
Global Prp Inc	46.2l	49.4l	+0.4l	3.34
Do Acc	47.3l	50.6l	+0.4l	3.34
Smlr Cos Div	40.6l	43.4l	+0.1l	6.22
GARTMORE FUND MANAGERS				
Gartmore House, 16-19 Finsbury Sq, London EC2P 2BA Tel: 071-628 1212 Dealing: 0277 264231 Services: 0800 289697				
UK Growth Trusts				
British Gth	32.6l	35.2le	+0.5l	2.78
Cap/Inc**	111.2l	c	+0.02	13.16
Dist Inc Inc	87.1l	93.4le	+0.5l	5.77
Do Acc	174.7	187.3le	+1.6l	5.77
UK Smlr Cos	94.8l	101.4	+0.9l	2.89
Income Trusts				
Extra Inc	63.6l	67.9l	+0.6l	8.28
Preference	20.4l	21.8l	-0.03	13.07
High Inc	32.2l	34.5le	+0.4l	6.28
Income	105.1	113.5	+0.1l	5.78
Intl Fixd Int	22.2b	23.4le	..	6.78
International Trusts				
Gold Int	61.6l	66.0l	-0.6l	4.76
Euroventure	18.6l	20.1l	-0.01	1.68
Pacific Mkts	32.0b	34.3le	-0.01	0.00
Glob Inc/Gth	60.0l	61.6le	+0.2l	5.82
UK/Intl	85.3l	91.1l	+0.6l	3.54
Overseas Trusts				
American	85.4l	90.6l	+0.9l	1.18
Eurobond	65.1l	68.8le	+0.1l	1.16
Euro Sel Opp	42.8l	47.6l	-0.1l	0.40
Far Eastern	45.9l	48.3l	+0.6l	0.00
Hong Kong	46.7l	50.0le	-0.1l	2.92
Japan	161.6	171.1	+2.0l	0.00
Pacific Gth	88.8l	93.0l	-0.4l	1.10
GOVETT (HONG KONG) MANAGEMENT				
Bankside House, 107 Leadenhall Lane, London EC3A 2DB Tel: 071-374 7979 Dealing: 071-588 0808				
Inc Gth	96.6l	102.8	+0.3l	0.71
Gen Gth	75.6l	82.1l	+1.6l	0.00
Euro Growth	67.2l	61.7le	-0.3l	0.82
Ger Horizons	40.6l	43.1l	-0.2l	2.00
Jap Growth	67.9l	72.6le	+0.9l	..
Pacific Inc	94.8l	101.3	-0.7l	2.88
Pacific Smlr	84.2l	88.7	-1.4l	0.00
UK Prog Inc	72.6l	77.9l	+1.0l	6.42
Gt British	46.6l	49.3l	+0.3l	1.62
UK Smlr Co	36.7l	41.4le	-0.4l	4.26
GRE UNIT MANAGERS				
38 Hadrian Exchange Square London E14 9GE Tel: 071-538 0808				
Cash	114.3	..	+0.1	13.00
Gt/Fixd Interest	107.1	112.4e	+0.2	8.00
Gth Equity	291.4l	307.1e	+0.3	3.46
Guardfd	364.0	376.1e	+5.2	3.46
Int Tst	107.6	115.4	+0.6	4.57
Intl	123.4	130.4e	+0.2	0.30
Managed	474.1	499.0	+7.3	..
N Amer	170.1	180.0	+1.2	0.74
Pacific	297.9	315.2	-0.3	0.00
Prop Shares	218.3	232.1	+0.4	4.08
Smlr Cos	248.8	262.3	+0.6	3.28
Euro Trust	308.8	326.8	-2.4	0.57
HALIFAX STANDARD TRUST MANAGEMENT LTD				
PO Box 600 Edinburgh EH16 5EW Tel: 0800 828888				
Global Adv Inc	27.9l	29.59e	+0.1l	3.12
Global Adv Acc	28.1l	29.80e	+0.1l	3.12
HAMBROS UNIT TRUST MANAGERS				
Admin: 5, Rayleigh Rd, Hutton, Brentwood, Essex, Tel: Enquiries: 0277 227300 Dealing: 0277 228988				
Amer Equity	51.0l	54.13c	-0.39	5.82
Canadian	46.5l	49.3c	-0.44	1.30
Equity Inc	101.1	107.6	+0.4	7.24
Gilt	111.9	122.4	+0.3	0.96
Inc Tst	70.07	74.54e	+0.46	9.16
Intl Eqs	53.6l	57.3l	-0.3l	0.67
Jap & Far East	94.7l	100.5	-0.1l	0.00
N Am	72.3l	77.2l	-0.2l	1.48
Smallcompanies	104.5	110.7	-1.0	0.84
Smlr Cos	29.6l	31.3le	-0.0l	2.61
UK New Germ	36.4l	40.6l	-0.0l	1.96
HENDERSON				

STOCK EXCHANGE PRICES

Quiet end to account

ACCOUNT DAYS: Dealings began March 11. Dealings ended yesterday. §Contango day April 2. Settlement day April 8.
§Forward bargains are permitted on two previous business days.

Prices recorded are at market close. Changes are calculated on the previous day's close, but adjustments are made when a stock is ex-dividend. Where one price is quoted, it is a middle price. Changes, yields and price earnings ratios are based on middle prices.

Portfolio PLATINUM

From your Portfolio Platinum card check your eight share price movements on this page only. Add these prices to your running total for the week and check this against the weekly dividend figure on this page. If it matches this figure, you have won outright or a share of the total weekly prize money stated. If you win, follow the claim procedure on the back of your card. You must always have your card available when claiming. Game rules appear on the back of your card.

No.	Company	Group	Gain or loss
1	Sirdar	Textiles	
2	Rowlinson Secs	Property	
3	Yorkshire Chem	Chemicals,Plas	
4	Sovereign	Oil,Gas	
5	Johnson Cleaners	Industrials E-K	
6	Allied Text	Textiles	
7	Wickes	Drapery,Stores	
8	Metalrax	Industrials L-R	
9	Barrett (H)	Industrials A-D	
10	Loc Refrigeration	Electricals	
11	Amec	Building,Roads	
12	Canning (W)	Chemicals,Plas	
13	Pressac	Electricals	
14	Spring Ram	Industrials S-Z	
15	Wolstenholme Rink	Chemicals,Plas	
16	Brammer	Industrials A-D	
17	THORN EMI	Electricals	
18	Clifford Foods 'A'	Foods	
19	Alexon	Drapery,Stores	
20	Carlisle	Banks,Discount	
21	Hutchsn Whampoa	Industrials E-K	
22	BAT	Tobaccos	
23	Aster	Electricals	
24	Church	Drapery,Stores	
25	Sharpe & Fisher	Building,Roads	
26	Southend Prop	Property	
27	Usher Walker	Paper,Print,Adv	
28	Tate & Lyle	Foods	
29	Laporte	Chemicals,Plas	
30	ECC Group	Industrials E-K	
31	Reed Int	Newspapers,Pub	
32	Bass	Breweries	
33	Davis (Godfrey)	Industrials A-D	
34	St Ives Gp	Paper,Print,Adv	
35	Abbey National	Banks,Discount	
36	Rank Org	Industrials L-R	
37	Nat Aust Bk	Banks,Discount	
38	P & O Dfd	Transport	
39	WPP	Paper,Print,Adv	
40	Bemrose	Paper,Print,Adv	
41	General Motor	Motors,Aircraft	
42	Bespak	Industrials A-D	
43	BPP	Newspapers,Pub	
44	Albert Fisher	Foods	
	© Times Newspapers Ltd.	Daily Total	

Please take into account any minus signs

Weekly Dividend

Please make a note of your daily totals for the weekly dividend of £8,000 in today's newspaper.

MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT	Weekly Total

Two readers shared the £6,000 Portfolio Platinum prize yesterday. Mr John Larkin, of Totland Bay, Isle of Wight, and Mr M Price, of Ibstock, Leicestershire, each receive £3,000.

There will be no Portfolio Platinum game during the Easter holiday. The competition will resume on Tuesday.

Week's price changes, Page 22

Portfolio PLATINUM

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WEEKLY DIVIDEND £8,000

Claims required for +198 points

Claimants should ring 0254-53272

BRITISH FUNDS

SHORTS (Under Five Years)

FIVE TO FIFTEEN YEARS

OVER FIFTEEN YEARS

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DRAPERY, STORES

ELECTRICALS

ELECTRICITY

FINANCE, LAND

FINANCIAL TRUSTS

FOODS

HOTELS, CATERERS

INDUSTRIALS A-D

E-K

L-R

S-Z

INSURANCE

Investment Trusts appear on Page 24

LEISURE

MINING

MOTORS, AIRCRAFT

NEWSPAPERS, PUBLISHERS

OILS, GAS

PAPER, PRINT, ADVERTISING

PROPERTY

SHOES, LEATHER

High	Low	Company	Bid	Offer	Ch'nge	Gross div p	Yld %	P/E
58	37	Headlam	51	55	..	3.2	6.0	8.5
286	183	Lambert Howarth	280	290	+18	15.0	5.3	9.2
71	40	Pittard Garnar	58	65	..	1.0	1.6	5.4
32	13½	Strong & Fisher	27	29	..	..	..	..
285	273	Stylo	288	290	..	12.0	4.2	30.7

TEXTILES

TOBACCOS

High	Low	Company	Bid	Offer	Ch'nge	Gross div p	Yld %	P/E
725	559	BAT	702	710	+6	41.5	5.9	29.5
858	695	Rothmans 'B'	810	825	-17	20.5	2.5	12.1

TRANSPORT

WATER

High	Low	Company	Bid	Offer	Ch'nge	Gross div p	Yld %	P/E
314	261	Anglian Water	286	291	+2	20.4	7.0	6.8
334	283	Northumbrian	304	308	-4	21.4	7.0	3.7
318	257	North West	280	282	-3	21.0	7.4	6.1
294	231	Severn Trent	274	277	-1	19.8	7.2	4.8
300	220	Sthrn Water	265	270	-1	20.0	7.5	5.8
327	255	South West	297	302	-1	23.2	7.7	4.8
315	250	Thames Water	288	291	-3	21.4	7.4	7.1
353	272	Welsh Water	329	333	+1	22.4	6.8	5.4
374	295	Wessex Water	354	358	-1	20.8	5.7	8.8
321	264	Yorkshire Water	310	315	+2	20.6	6.6	6.7
£1065	£1000	Package Unit	£2623		-£17			

● Ex dividend a Ex all b Forecast dividend e Interim payment passed f Price at suspension g Dividend and yield exclude a special payment k Pre-merger figures n Forecast earnings o Ex other r Ex rights s Ex scrip or share split t Tax-free .. No significant data.

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1989 (G) GOLF GTI 5 DOOR. Finished in Helios Blue Metallic with Power Steering Sunroof, Central Locking, 21,400 Miles £9,795
1989 (F) GOLF GTI 5 DOOR. Finished in Black with Sunroof, Alloy Wheels, Central Locking, Tinted Glass, 31,400 Miles £8,795
1988 (F) GOLF GTI 3 DOOR. Finished in Tornado Red, Sunroof, Radio Cassette, 32,300 Miles £7,795
1990 (H) PASSAT L SALOON. Finished in Maritime Blue, Central Locking, Tinted Glass, Catalytic Convertor, 3,500 Miles £9,995
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88F 190E Auto White, cloth, esr, ew, rhr	28T	£16,495
90G 190E Auto Pearl, cloth, esr, ew, rhr, abs	20T	£17,495
90G 190E Auto Smoke, cloth, esr, ew, abs, a/c	20T	£17,995
89G 190E Auto Astral, hide, esr, ew, abs, rhr, aw	20T	£17,995
90G 190E 2.6 Auto Impala, cloth, full sportline	12T	£21,995
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90H 190E 2.6 Auto B/Black, hide, rhr, aw, rc	7T	£24,995
91H 190E 2.5 16V Astral, hide, ab, ads, rc	4T	£31,995
87D 200 Auto B/Black, cloth, esr, rhr, r/c	28T	£12,995
88E 200T Auto Willow, cloth, esr, rhr, r/c	51T	£13,495
89G 200TE Auto Red, cloth, esr, rfs, rhr	21T	£18,995
90G 200TE Auto Willow, cloth, esr, rfs, rhr, ew	15T	£19,995
90G 230TE Man Blue, cloth, esr, ew, rhr	17T	£19,995
87E 260E Nautic, cloth, esr, ew, abs, rhr	21T	£15,995
88E 260E Nautic, cloth, esr, ew, aw, rhr	36T	£16,995
88F 260E Signal, hide, esr, ew, aw, rhr	32T	£17,995
86C 280GES Auto Blue met, cloth, aw, rhr, ew	32T	£11,495
87D 300E Smoke, hide, abs, esr, rhr	47T	£14,995
90G 300E 24V Midnight, cloth, ac, aw, esr	22T	£25,995
89G (90 MDL) 300CE Smoke, hide, ads, essc	26T	£28,995
90G 300SL 24V Astral, hide, ac, ads, cc, 5 spd, etc	4T	£58,995
90H 300TD Smoke, cloth, rfs, esr, ew, r/c	12T	£25,995
90G 420SEC Diamond, hide, a/c, efs, r/c	14T	£37,995
87E 560SEC Smoke, hide, full spec	30T	£33,995
90G 300SL Smoke, hide, ac, rs, cc, r/c, bfs	6T	P.O.A.
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RUGBY LEAGUE

Wigan will respect Featherstone's ability to surprise

By KEITH MACKLIN

WIGAN versus St Helens and Widnes against Warrington, two traditional Good Friday fixtures, have been shunted elsewhere because of congested timetables, but today's Stones Bitter championship programme contains some outstanding matches.

Wigan, the holders, have rearranged a fixture at **Featherstone** and will travel there tonight to play the second of eight games in 18 days after their victory at Warrington on Tuesday.

Featherstone's reputation as giantkillers will be troubling Wigan, especially as they closed the gap on Widnes last weekend from 27-6 to 27-22 and, in the words of at least one Widnes official, "would have won if the match had lasted five minutes longer".

The leaders

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Widnes	22	17	0	5	547	269	34
Castleford	22	16	0	6	518	368	32
Hull	22	15	0	7	439	290	30
Wigan	19	14	1	4	502	243	29
Leeds	22	12	1	9	521	394	25
St Helens	22	12	1	9	518	461	25

Meanwhile, the two challengers from east of the Pennines, **Castleford** and **Hull**, also face difficult matches. Hull, whose threat has faded in recent weeks, meet their neighbours and rivals, **Hull Kingston Rovers**, at the Boulevard. Rovers would derive great pleasure in extinguishing Hull's remaining hopes.

Tonight, Castleford, with a run of ten successive wins behind them, travel to Odsal to face a **Bradford Northern** side that will raise its game to prove that recent results belie its real ability.

Northern have slipped dangerously since they reached the Regal Trophy final and, at one recent stage, hovered around the relegation area. However, they appear to be recovering form and confidence sufficiently for Castleford to need to produce their best form to make it 11 victories in a row and maintain their strong challenge.

Leeds entertain **Wakefield Trinity** in a two-edged game, with Leeds needing the points to get a high play-off position, and Trinity still not out of the relegation wood. **Rochdale Hornets** take on **Oldham**, another side in serious danger of the drop to the second division after the disappointment of their Challenge Cup exit against Wigan last week.

Hornets have had a dreadful season with one win to their credit and some thumping defeats, but this is a game which they always relish.

In the second division, **Salford** have already secured promotion but they will not relax against financially struggling **Leigh**, whose slump may cost them a home tie in the premiership.

Swinton struggled to pick up vital points and retain second place at **Hunslet** last week, but they should find life much easier against **Trafford Borough** at Altrincham.

Workington Town suffered a minor though not unexpected setback at **Halifax** last week, but they should have no difficulty in maintaining their play-off challenge at home to their neighbours, **Whitehaven**, three of whose directors resigned yesterday as evidence of boardroom and financial turmoil.

Fulham are making a powerful bid to reach the play-offs and provide a South London presence in the big time, and they should win at home to **Chorley**. **Ryedale-York** entertain **Doncaster** in yet another match important to the premiership placings.

Clubs expected to back change

By KEITH MACKLIN

NOW it seems that David Oxley's "black day in the history of rugby league" — his reference to the defeat earlier this month of the three divisions scheme — may well prove to have been no more than a heavy squall. Next month, another special general meeting of club representatives will reopen the matter, and this time the required three-fifths majority is expected to be attained after failing by just two votes last time.

This raises the question of which particular scheme will be adopted in time for the League's administration executive to arrange fixtures for the 1991-2 season. Gary Hetherington's brainchild of a 14, 8 and 14 structure received a mixed and, ultimately losing, reception at the initial special general meeting, and is by no means certain to get through this time.

There are those who favour a simpler formula of three divisions with 12 clubs each, and this will surely be put as an amendment or alternative. The main objection to the suggested middle tier of eight clubs is that, in the event of teams such as Workington Town and Fulham being involved, there would be enormous travelling distances for clubs with multiple fixtures and poor attendances.

The feeling is that three divisions must be introduced to increase competitiveness and advance the game's standing in a cut-throat sporting market. The nettle has to be grasped. The question is: which nettle?

☐ West London Institute beat Oxford University 16-12 to win the student premiership at Warrington.

☐ Barrie McDermott, who lost an eye in an air rifle accident three years ago, has been selected for the British amateur youth tour of New Zealand in the summer.

Venue of World Bowl no surprise

By RICHARD WETHERELL

MIKE Lynn, the president of the World League of American Football (WLAF), surprised few people when he announced that the inaugural World Bowl would be at Wembley on June 9.

Britain has always been the focal point for expansion into foreign climes and Wembley its adopted home after being the venue for six National Football League pre-season games. London won the WLAF vote against Moscow, Toronto, Helsinki, Paris, Barcelona, Belgrade and Orlando to be host.

"It's only appropriate that Wembley was the site of the first NFL game in 1983 and is going to be the first site for the historic first World Bowl," Lynn said.

Tickets for the game, which kicks off at 6pm, will be allocated to all the WLAF teams, non-participating sides receiving one per cent, an equal split for those taking part, and the rest on general sale.

For the London Monarchs, preparing for their game against New York-New Jersey Knights on Sunday, this announcement was another incentive to be successful. The players and coaches are already excited about playing in front of their "home" crowd and are hoping to make Wembley a place where visitors are apprehensive about visiting.

"Several times throughout the week the words World Bowl does come in conversation with the players and coaches," Billy Hicks, the general manager of the Monarchs, said. "That makes me optimistic we can be there."

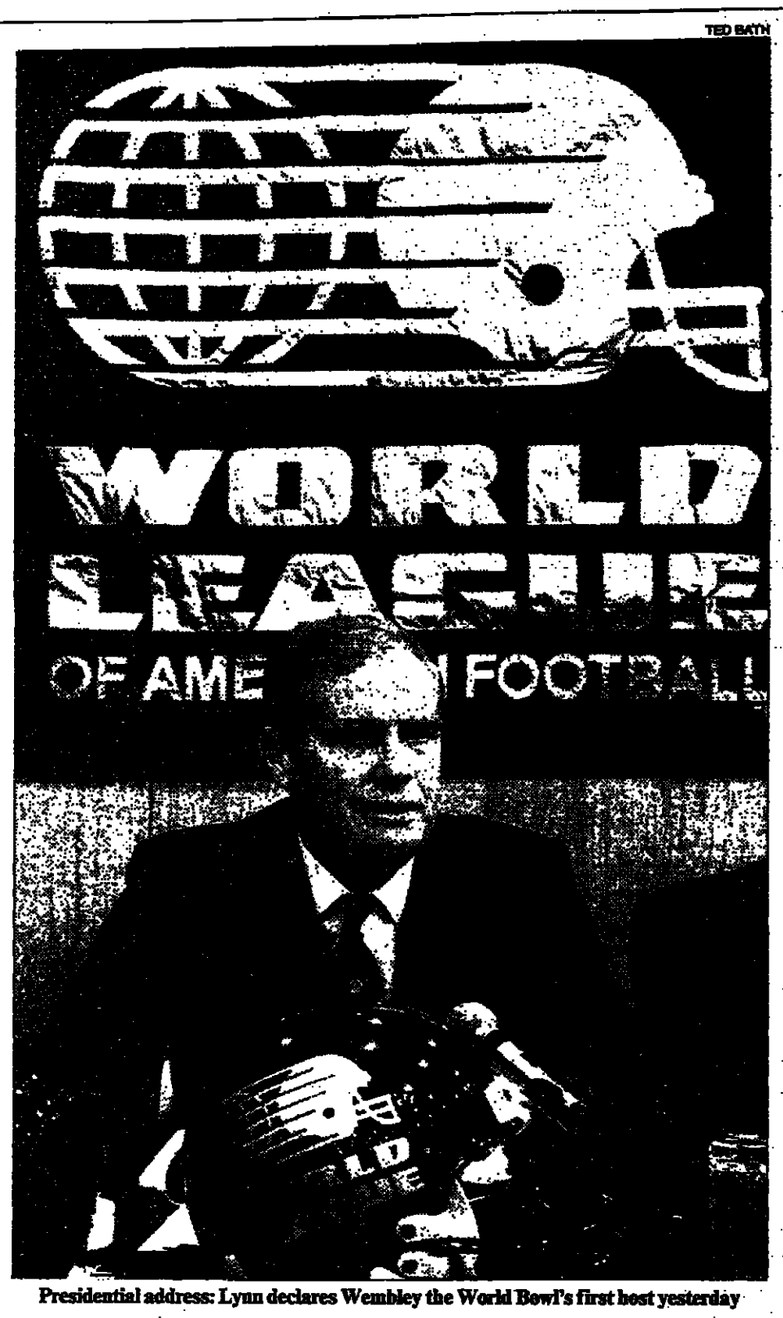
Lynn cautioned against over-enthusiasm about the success of the opening weekend of the league but still outlined plans for expansion. He said that will take place when the WLAF is sure there are ten stable franchises in place and not before. "We don't want to rush into an expansion programme by adding teams if we have a franchise in trouble," he said.

According to Lynn, the WLAF will know by May if all the franchises are stable and if the portents are good then expansion, which is likely to be in the Pacific basin, could take place next year. Given the logistics, it will be a four-team division with Hawaii as its anchor.

With the WLAF under way, the credibility gap appears to have been bridged and to emphasise that point Lynn has received two offers for the Frankfurt franchise, at present run by the WLAF, and officials are hopeful that more than 40,000 will attend the Monarchs' first home game.

They want it to be the largest sporting event in Britain this weekend.

TED BATH



Presidential address: Lynn declares Wembley the World Bowl's first host yesterday

TENNIS

Davis Cup couple drafted in by Lewis

By a CORRESPONDENT

BILLY Knight and Andrew Jarrett, both former Davis Cup players, were given key positions yesterday as Richard Lewis continued his restructuring of the Lawn Tennis Association's national training department.

Lewis, the new man in charge of British tennis, appointed Knight, a former doubles partner of Tony Pickard, the Davis Cup captain, to take over the management of men's national training. Jarrett will have a similar role among the women.

Knight believes he will be able to breathe some life into the domestic game, after a decade without international success, by bridging the gap between the junior and professional ranks.

British tennis is entering a new age, he said, and within three years would be producing competitors in the world's leading 100 players from the junior ranks.

"I am very pleased to take on the role because it is a big challenge which I relish," Knight, who played in the semi-finals of the French Open, won the German Open championship and reached the last 16 of Wimbledon four times, said.

"I fervently believe that we can crack the top 100 with at least a couple of players in three years, maybe two inside 75.

"I am determined to close the gap between the junior and professional circuit by sending out players on the professional circuit at 15 and 16 rather than later, which has been the case. Miles Maclagan, James Baily and Mark Schofield are already getting that sort of experience."

Knight's confidence has been increased by a greater number of encouraging international results. Maclagan reached the quarter-final of the Orange Bowl, effectively the world junior championship, while Baily defeated the No. 3 seed at the same event and Andrew Richardson has kept busy by beating European champions.

Pickard said: "Bill's appointment is terrific. He'll bring plenty of professionalism into the programmes and give the boys the best opportunities on their best surfaces. The rest will take care of itself."

Power of Graf in full flow

SAN Antonio — Steffi Graf won a convincing 6-3, 6-1 victory over Monique Javer in the second round of the United States hard-court championships here in Texas yesterday (Barry Wood writes).

The outcome of a surprisingly competitive match was decided not so much by Javer's shortcomings but the overwhelming class of her opponent.

To see Graf's forehand being used so frequently and to such devastating effect was like welcoming back an old friend.

Despite the intimidating nature of her opponent, Javer's attitude and effort were beyond reproach. She attacked the ball with great spirit, and really made Graf work for her points.

The separating factor was that, while Graf was able to lift herself to another level, Javer was not. That move came after Graf had taken a 4-3 lead on her seventh break point.

From then on, instead of staying with her, Javer found herself slipping further and further behind. "Her serving was unbelievable," Javer said. "It was just the power, the velocity."

Results, page 31

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HOCKEY

Havant's tough target

HAVANT will try to emulate Hounslow's achievement of winning the European Cup Winners' Cup in the four-day event starting today at Terrassa in Spain (Sydney Friskin writes). Hounslow could have defended the trophy but opted to play in the European Cup at The Hague from May 17 to 20.

Havant face Banco Spirito (Italy), Avoca (Ireland) and Club Egara (Spain) in pool A, and must finish top to qualify for the final. SV Kampong (The Netherlands), Lille (France), Rot-Weiss (Cologne) and Torbrex (Scotland) make up pool B.

Havant, who are in line for the league and cup double, have Williams, the centre forward, at his best and Hill is playing extremely well at half back.

HAVANT PARTY: S Rowlands, J Lewis, D Faulkner, D Roberts, R Hill, P Neil, S Lawson, M Coleman, R Garcia, D Williams, C Cooper, J Gohring, S Avery, G Roberts, D Cunliffe, P Cooper.

☐ The highlight of the four-day Easter festival at Folkestone will be a match, on Sunday, in memory of Nevill Mfroy, the festival manager from 1947, who died in September. The Festival XI, led by Richard Dodds, will face Limburger, from Germany.

Oxford receive a lucky break

By SYDNEY FRISKIN

Oxford 1
UAU I 0

OXFORD, who recently won the University match after 11 years, yesterday followed up by securing the British Universities Sports Federation title at Liverpool by defeating the Universities Athletic Union (UAU) first team in the final.

It was a fitting reward for the Oxford captain, Andy Grimes, a tireless worker on and off the field. Oxford seem to have had a charmed life in this tournament, having scraped into the final on penalty strokes.

A snap chance seized by Markham five minutes before the end broke the deadlock, leaving the UAU to ponder the consequences of having wasted a penalty stroke eight minutes earlier. Oxford could make nothing of the five short corners gathered in the first half, attempting to work themselves into favourable positions.

The UAU, after surviving a minor crisis early in the second half, raised their game and held Oxford under increasing pressure. But they too began to miss chances, the easiest being squandered by Bloor, who lost control near the line after eluding the goalkeeper.

It was Pfaff who conceded the penalty stroke by getting a foot in the way of a shot by UAU from a short corner. But Nicholson, who took it, released a weak push and Nicholls, the goalkeeper, also with a charmed life, made a comfortable save.

Oxford's crucial chance was created by Neal, who hit the ball into the circle from the right, and a timely deflection by Markham sent it into goal to give Oxford the title they last won at Edinburgh in 1983.

OXFORD: J Nicholls (Worcester); R Salter (St Edmund Hall), A Wilson (Balliol), S Liddle (Worcester), M Meredith (Pembroke), A Grimes (Jesus, capt), J Evans (Oriel), R Markham (Mansfield), J Ralph (Brasenose), D Pfaff (Keble), D Neal (St Edmund Hall).
UAU I: J Barrow (Reading); D Cross (Exeter, capt), I Morrison (Reading), C Nicholson (Durham), P Gorman (Durham), C Bloor (Birmingham), P Matson (Exeter), T Saxton (Durham), J Barker (Durham), R Webster (Southampton), R Foster (Leeds; sub: M Coleman, Exeter).
Umpires: G Nash and M Graham (Northern Counties).

☐ Northern Ireland won the third place play-off by defeating London 3-1. Holway, Anderson and Atkins scored for the Irish with Andy Thompson replying for London.

RESULTS: Final: Oxford 1, UAU I 0. Play-offs: Third: Northern Ireland 3, London 1. Fifth: UAU II 6, Wales 1. Seventh: Cambridge 5, Scotland 2.

England reputation placed on line

By ALIX RAMSAY

ENGLAND travel to Germany today for the four nations' women's tournament in Munich knowing that their reputation is on the line. A series of disappointing results has left them with one last chance to put things right before the European Cup in May.

England face the Netherlands, Germany and Spain, and the task is not going to be easy. Susan Slocombe, the England coach, said: "It's a real tough one. It's the four top teams in Europe playing each other with each not wanting to show the other what they are going to do in May."

With Kirsten Spencer ruled out for the rest of the season after failing to recover from a knee operation, the selectors have called in Jane Smith. Given England's failure to score goals in recent months, the move to bring in a forward for a defender would appear a significant one.

"We're taking our best 16. There's no more to it than that," Slocombe said. "I think we've played some very exciting hockey in our recent matches. What we haven't done is score the goals, and that's a case of having composure and confidence in the circle and a little luck.

"It seems to me England bring the best out of their opposition. Helen Morgan played the game of a lifetime for Wales against us in Durham, as did the French sweeper, Teffri, at Wembley."

Mandy Sowerby, recovering from a broken toe, and Vickey Dixon, who has a damaged hand, will both be available.

Not even the prospect of facing the Netherlands, the toughest of opponents, in the opening match seems to dent Slocombe's belief. "I think England are playing better now than before the World Cup. We've looked carefully at our penalty-striking techniques, and after Friday's training session we hope to have everything in swinging form. We'll prove it to everybody when the goals start to flow."

CYCLING

Dighton goes for records with Atkins

GARY Dighton, Britain's best all-round time-trial champion, puts his early-season fitness under test today and again on Sunday as he tries to add to the two records he has set this year (Peter Bryan writes).

Both his holiday events will be in partnership with his Manchester Wheelers colleague, Eddie Adkins. They start with the VC Bedford hilly 35km, which Adkins won last year in company with Ian Cammish, now a professional, in 48min 38sec. On Sunday, they compete at Hinksey, in Oxfordshire, heading an entry of 64 teams.

The new combination faces unusual competition from the professional pairing of Steve Jones and Steve Joughin, who are more familar with road races. The amateurs' deep experience of time-trials is likely to keep them on top.

Dighton will be careful not to peak too soon and jeopardise his all-round defence. "That still remains my main target for the year," he said yesterday. He will need to plan carefully which qualifying events he will ride at 50 and 100 miles, and 12 hours.

STUDENT SPORT

English universities show unstoppable form

THE strength of English universities football was confirmed at Peffermill, Edinburgh, yesterday when the Universities Athletic Union (UAU) first team beat its understudy 5-0 in the final of the British universities tournament (Mark Herbert writes).

Overall, the quality and competitiveness of the tournament, before the selectors of the team for the World Student Games, was a bonus. The selectors have a final chance to view likely candidates at the Endsleigh festival in Sheffield in a fortnight before naming the British squad.

Both UAU sides dominated the early stages, finishing top of their groups to qualify for the final, in which Sion Thomas and Rob Matthews, the Loughborough pair, scored twice each and Julian Hails, of Surrey, added the fifth.

Oxford and Cambridge qualified for the play-off for third place, but the match did not take place. Instead, the annual University match at Fulham tomorrow will decide the final medal position.

Earlier, UAU I won the crucial match of the group rounds, beating Scotland 2-1. The Scots, after a bright start in which they beat Northern Ireland 2-1, finished out of the medals for the first time in 16 years, following a 2-0 defeat by Cambridge in their final group match.

RESULTS: Final: UAU I 5, UAU II 0. Play-offs: Third: Oxford v Cambridge (playing at Fulham FC tomorrow). Fifth: Scotland 6, Wales 0. Seventh: N Ireland 4, London 1.

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MARCH 29 1991

TENNIS

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Power of Graf in full flow

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YACHTING

Selectors expect to glean ideas

From BARRY PICKTHALL IN LA TRINITÉ, FRANCE

THE Spi Ouest Easter regatta, which starts off here today, provides the first competitive indicator for this year's Admiral's Cup series at Cowes.

Six crews, including the Royal Air Force team led by John Best, sailing their new Two Tonner, Wings of Oracle, and Andrew Hurst's, One Tonner, Shadana, are here to size up against the top French boats, Corum 40 and Corum 45, which have been preselected to compete in the British series.

Sadly, two crews miss this vital test and the lost experience could prove costly when the British selectors decide which one of the six One Tonners will go forward to represent Britain.

Zurich, the former Danish One Tonner which finished fourth at last year's world *championship*, remains at her berth on the Hamble after her owner, Mike Partridge, pleaded with the selectors to be excused this French trial after finding their new mast did not fit.

"They've been playing with their rigging for the past four weeks and they are bound to lose out by not being here," Ian MacDonald Smith, Britain's chief selector, said. Richard Franklin's crew have made it here, but are forced to watch from the sidelines after their older One Tonner, Relax, was dismasted during the delivery trip.

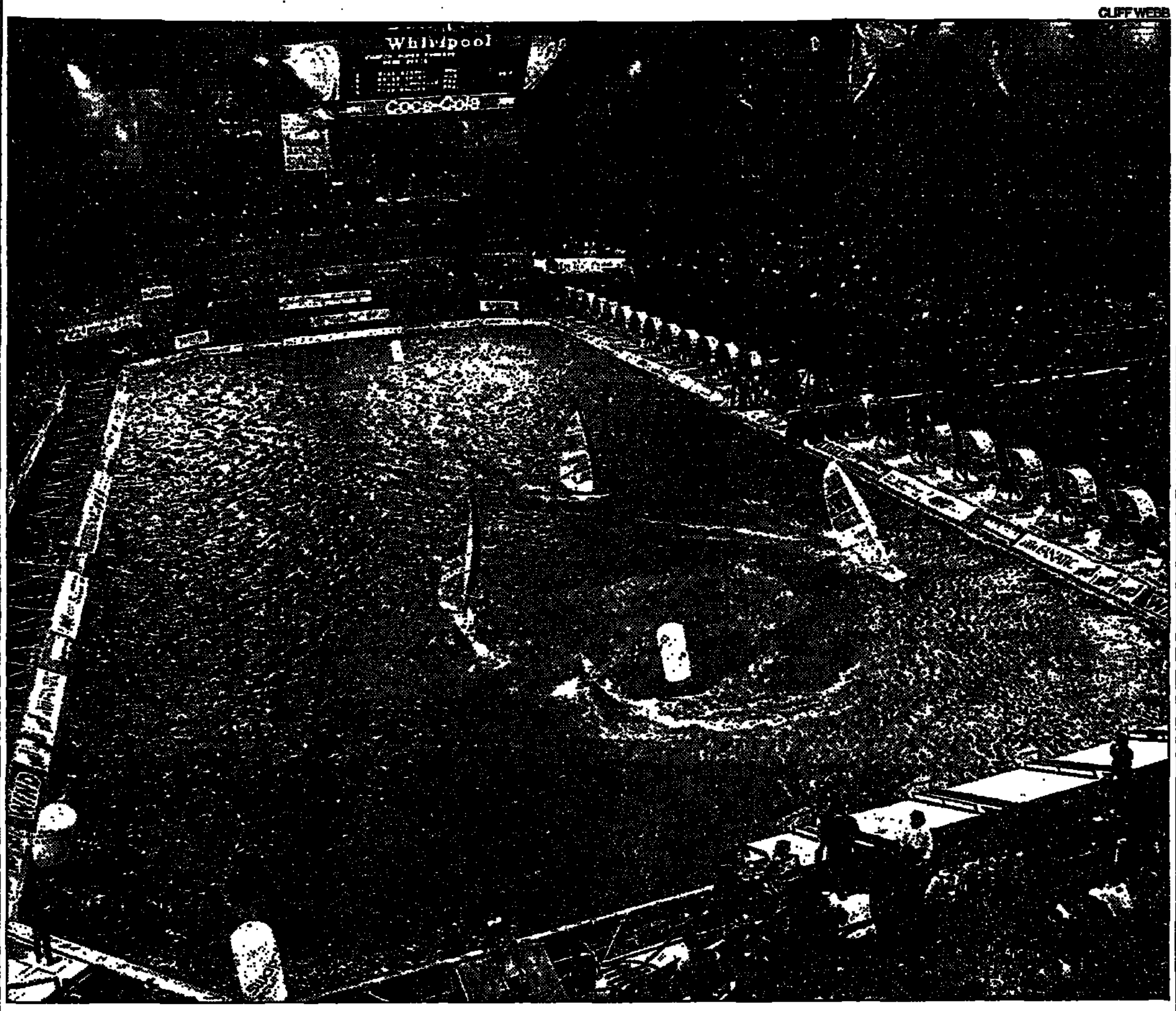
They had a lucky escape. With winds blowing more than 40 knots, the crippled yacht was in danger of being driven onto a lee shore until the local lifeboat towed them out of danger.

The ten-strong Admiral's Cup yachts are the elite in a 400-strong fleet competing in the six-day series.

Among other British yachts expected to share the spotlight is Crispin Hotson's latest Dubois-designed 54ft, Dump Truck, competing in a strong fleet which also includes David Bedford's J34, Jailbird, and Warlord, a new J39 under the command of Philip Tollhurst.

ANZIO, Italy: Laser Europa Cup: Second race: 1, M Hestbaek (Den); 2, P Nocke (Ger); 3, E Papatanasiou (Gr); 4, K Lanme (Ger); 5, T Powell (GB). **Other British positions:** 13, S Hudson; 14, S Bones Cole; 33, J Lasenby. **Third race:** 1, Hestbaek; 2, E Tomasevic (Yug); 3, R Stenhouse (GB); 4, Powell; 5, T Palm (Swe). **Other British positions:** 8, Hudson; 25, S Dodds; 26, Lasenby.

CLIFF WEBB



Indoor splash: the world's leading boardsailors contend with the wind generated by the 26 turbines lined up along the edge of the pool in Paris

Indoor event causes a large ripple

By BARRY PICKTHALL

THE exciting white-water world of wave jumping moved indoors earlier this month when the Professional Boardsailors Association (PBA) held its indoor championship in the artificial surroundings of the Palais de Omnisport at Bercy in Paris.

Playing to 12,000-strong audiences during three days of intense competition, the normally sunbronzed boardsailors, who vied for the the $100,000 in prize-money posted for this Swatch Super Fundoor event, earned ecstatic reviews for their acrobatic performances. Not all of them, however, were happy with the 25-knot winds produced by 26 turbines lining the *80 x 30-metre pool. "There's a lot* of luck involved in this type of sailing, and I've been pretty unlucky so far," Clare Seeger, of Great Britain said. She was ranked fourteenth in the world before breaking her wrist and piercing an eardrum during a bad fall.

Luke Hargreaves, of Australia, who set the early pace on the slalom course said: "It's excellent as a show and spectacle but it shouldn't be a competition as there is so much luck needed to win." Robby Naish, from Hawaii, voiced his concern at the ramp used to project the sailors *12ft into the air. The force of impact* damaged the boards and caused many dangerous crashes.

"The concept is fabulous, but I think the execution has been very poor with a jump ramp that is destroying our equipment. We've done $10,000 of damage," Naish said after the first night. The former world champion nevertheless recovered his composure sufficiently to finish second overall but he vowed never to compete again.

Not everybody agreed with these sentiments. Eric Thieme, from France, the eventual winner, and *Jason Polakow, from Australia, who* stole the show with his stunning acrobatics, successfully adjusted their techniques to gain perfect scores during Sunday's final rounds.

The show was a winner, too, with the public and, sponsorship willing, further indoor events are scheduled to be held at Antwerp in September and Barcelona in December. The Paris event is also assured of a place in next year's PBA world tour.

RACING

Full Cry victory opens exciting era for Cauthen

By MICHAEL SEELY, RACING CORRESPONDENT

STEVE Cauthen rode his first winner for his new employer, Sheikh Mohammed, when driving Full Cry to a hard-earned win in the Falmer Maiden Stakes at a windswept and chilly Brighton yesterday.

Cauthen had to switch the son of The Minstrel to the outside at halfway, and looked in trouble coming down the hill. But Full Cry picked up when he met the rising ground and went on to beat Romanian by a length.

"Full Cry came to Brighton because he's a Brighton-class horse," said Tim Brown, John Gosden's assistant trainer. "Even The Minstrel got slow horses. But he should be able to pick up another race like this."

Formerly employed by Henry Cecil, the 30-year-old Kentucky-born jockey will now be riding the pick of the 400-horse empire of Sheikh Mohammed, Britain's leading owner five times in the last six years.

Punters, however, are warned not to back Cauthen to become champion jockey for the fourth time. "I won't be killing myself to do it," he said. "I've already done it, and it's far more of a struggle for me to get rid of weight than it is for Pat Eddery and Willie Carson."

The jockey spent most of his winter at home in Kentucky, where his fiancée Amy Ruthfuss, aged 26, is in her last two months as a law student. Discussing his well advertised weight problems, Cauthen went on: "It's pretty good at the *moment. I'm 8st 9lb, only a* pound over my usual riding weight of 8st 8lb."

Cauthen will certainly be having a busy time in what must be regarded as Europe's top jockey position when he comes to consider his choice of classic mounts. The trainers for whom he will be riding include Henry and Julie Cecil, John Gosden, Michael Stoute, Guy Harwood, John Dunlop, and the French champion trainer, André Fabre.

"I won't be riding Sheikh Mohammed's horses trained by Luca Cumani on a regular basis, as Frankie Dettori is his contract rider. But there's an *arrangement for me to ride* when wanted."

Since his return in March, the jockey has been riding out for three hours at least two days a week, mainly for Henry Cecil and Gosden. "It's in my interest as much as anybody's that I get to know the horses. When it comes to making my choice, John Hanmer, my agent, will be helping me with the form book. But the final decision is always mine."

Like most powerful owners, Sheikh Mohammed has a string of lightly raced and inexperienced three-year-olds who were not seen in public much last season because of the firm ground. These include the Gosden-trained Deer Hound, an unraced colt by Nureyev. "He may be too inexperienced to come to hand in time for the Guineas, but he's a nice horse," said Cauthen.

The best of the Mohammed-owned three-year-olds with public form are Lycius, the Fabre-trained winner of the Middle Park Stakes, and Cumani's seven-lengths Ascot winner, Island Universe. "It's early days to be knowing much about our classic horses yet," warned Simon Crisford, the Sheikh's assistant racing manager.

Cauthen's only other mount, Abu Hanifah, had to be content with third behind Olifantsfontein in the opening Churchill Square Maiden Stakes. The unlucky horse was the 6-4 on favourite, Silver Dilemma, a full-brother to the high-class sprinter Silver Fling. John Reid, denied a clear run at a vital stage of the race, only emerged in time to finish strongly before being beaten half a length.

However, full marks for enterprise must go to Andrew Tucker, the winning 7lb claimer. The 22-year-old Wantage-born rider now works for yesterday's winning trainer, Rod Simpson. "He's better than Simon Whitworth was at this stage," said the trainer.

Epsom stables had their only winner of the afternoon when Paul Eddery drove Surrey Racing to a two-and-a-half lengths win over Songlines in the Roedean Handicap. Geoff Lewis, the winning trainer, missed seeing the three-year-olds win. "I went down to the start to make sure he got off," said the trainer. "He's as a kind as a Christian at home, but he boils over when he gets to the racecourse."

Barrow given £300 fine

ARTHUR Barrow, the Bridgwater trainer, was fined £300 after an incident following the Thurloxton Handicap Chase at Taunton yesterday. Wanting to remove his Swift Ascent, who had broken down, from the track, Barrow was faced by a barrier which a gateman would not open.

In the ensuing altercation, the gateman finished up on the ground. Barrow was fined under the rule covering "violent or improper conduct."

Mr Frisk backed again

WITH the continuing prospect of dry weather at Aintree, the fast-ground horses have again been in demand for the Seagram Grand National tomorrow week (George Rae writes).

Ladbrokes report sustained support for last year's winner, the Kim Bailey-trained Mr Frisk, backed to 16-1 from 20-1, while keeping Jenny Pitman's Garrison Savannah, the Cheltenham Gold Cup winner, at 6-1 favourite with a run.

Corals, having borne the brunt of a gamble on Mr Frisk on Wednesday, continue to quote him at 16-1 but report interest in another suited by a sound surface, Bigsun. David Nicholson's charge is in two points at 12-1 from 14-1.

Corals's book on the Irish Grand National at Fairyhouse on Easter Monday could hardly be more open with four 7-1 joint-favourites, the Irish-trained Rawhide and three English challengers, Cool Ground, Omerta and Four Trix.

Ladbrokes offer an interesting variation on Cool Ground however, offering 10-1 about Reg Akehurst's charge. They have Omerta and Rawhide sharing market leadership at 6-1.

Full service

The Times racing service tomorrow will include the racecards for all seven Easter Saturday meetings.

Yesterday's results

Brighton

Going: good to firm

2.0 (6f) 1, **OLIFANTSFONTEIN** (A Tucker, 12-1); 2, Silver Dilemma (J Reid, 4-6 fav); 3, Abu Hanifah (S Cauthen, 9-2). ALSO RAN: 11-2 Magic Potion (4th), 12 Debjanjo (6th), 50 Baypha, Notanotherone (5th), Telmeabouti. 8 ran. ½l, 3½l, 1l, 4l, sh hd. R Simpson at Foxhill. Tote: £12.40; £2.00, £1.10, £1.40. DF: £7.10. CSF: £19.84.

2.30 (1m 4f) 1, **JOKERS PATCH** (N Adams, 5-1; Private Handicapper's top rating); 2, Calachuchi (N Connorton, 9-4 fav); 3, St Elmo's Fire (G Duffield, 11-2). ALSO RAN: 9-2 Rushluan (4th), 8 Our Vision (6th), 14 Secret Summit, 16 Excelsis, 25 Ribokeyes Boy (5th), Standard Rose, 33 Commanding Officer, Douceur, False Passport, Omorsi, Boadicea's Chariot. 14 ran. 2½l, 3l, 3l, sh hd, 2l. R Holder at Bristol. Tote: £8.10; £1.70, £1.80, £2.10. DF: £9.80. CSF: £16.09.

3.0 (1m 2f) 1, **EVERY ONE A GEM** (G Carter, 8-1; Our Newmarket Correspondent's nap); 2, Al Shany (T Williams, 9-1); 3, Tiger Claw (W R Swinburn, 10-1); 4, Thin Red Line (W Newnes, 6-1). ALSO RAN: 7-2 fav Russian Red, 10 The Minder (5th), 12 Priceless Fantasy, 14 Lodging, Gibbot (6th), 16 Phil-Blake, Master Pierre, Mountain Wind, 20 Ibn Sina, Athens By Night, Glenstal Priory, 33 Short Shot, Yarra Glen, Fearless Native. 18 ran. NR: May Be Bold, Sand-Dollar. Nk, 1l, 7l, ¾l, 1½l. M Ryan at Newmarket. Tote: £9.80; £2.30, £1.70, £2.20, £1.50. DF: £50.30. CSF: £78.99. Tricast: £682.42.

3.30 (6f) 1, **SURREY RACING** (Paul Eddery, 10-1); 2, Songlines (T Quinn, 3-1 fav); 3, Tenirion Bay (W Ryan, 12-1). ALSO RAN: 5 Wellangrill (6th), 6 Major Rogers (5th), 13-2 Powerful Pierre, 8 Mistitled, 11 Pine Glen Pepper (4th), 12 Vittoria Glenn. 9 ran. 2½l, 2l, hd, 1l, 4l. G Lewis at Epsom. Tote: £14.30; £3.50, £1.50, £1.80. DF: £20.10. CSF: £36.80. Tricast: £330.45. After a stewards' enquiry, placings stood.

4.0 (1m) 1, **FULL CRY** (S Cauthen, 4-5 fav); 2, Romanian (R Cuant, 16-1); 3, Interloper (W R Swinburn, 6-1). ALSO RAN: 5 Dunstable, 14 Chew It Over (4th), Iceneesformiles, 16 Harry's Gem, Sarah-Clare, 20 Amico Natvo, Stradivaris Fiddle, 33 Proud Brigadier (5th), Parisian Express (6th), Peggy Spare, 50 Eighteenthirtyfour, Gilded Omen. 15 ran. 1l, 1l, 5l, ¾l, 5l. J Gosden at Newmarket. Tote: £1.70; £1.20, £3.30, £2.00. DF: £24.90. CSF: £18.27.

4.30 (7f) 1, **SLEEPLINE FANTASY** (J Quinn, 7-1); 2, Krisfield (A Tucker, 6-1); 3, Beau Dada (J Williams, 15-2); 4, Aldahe (J Reid, 9-2 fav). ALSO RAN: 7 Odlex (6th), Orchard's Pet (5th), 8 Young Chrissos, 12 Farmer Jock, Sockem, 16 My Scene, Pleasant Exhibit, Beechwood Cottage, Gozone, 20 Kawwas, 25 Newasel, Mr Smiley, 33 Lucky Crystal, 50 Chaff. 18 ran. 1½l, hd, hd, 2½l, ½l. M Channon at Upper Lambourn. Tote: £11.80; £3.10, £2.40, £2.00, £3.00. DF: £22.40. CSF: £63.95. Tricast: £321.35.

Placepot: £13.40.

Taunton

Going: good to firm

2.15 (2m 110yd hdle) 1, Simpson (N Coleman, 8-1); 2, Line Lad (16-1); 3, New Lord (50-1). Miami Splash 10-11 fav. 13 ran. NR: Sritton Lane. 20l, 3l. J Old. Tote: £7.70; £1.90, £2.20, £9.90. DF: £31.60. CSF: £81.21.

2.45 (2m 110yd hdle) 1, Pharoah's Guest (Dale McKeown, 6-1); 2, Kashmiri Wind (50-1); 3, Follow The Sea (6-1). Spitfire Jubilee 5-1 fav. 14 ran. 8l, nk. J Akehurst. Tote: £8.50; £3.90, £11.10, £1.90. DF: £277.60. CSF: £207.55.

3.15 (2m 3f ch) 1, Grey Tornado (B Powell, 9-2); 2, Mallypha (5-1); 3, Socks Downe (5-2 fav). 9 ran. 8l, 4l. C Popham. Tote: £5.40; £1.50, £2.30, £1.30. DF: £11.70. CSF: £24.32. Tricast: £59.84.

3.45 (2m 3f hdle) 1, Hellovestate (N Hawke, 33-1); 2, Lyph (3-1 fav); 3, Phyrialairrazen Lady (20-1). 13 ran. NR: Wick Pound, Free Justice. 2½l, sh hd. D Barons. Tote: £17.30; £3.50, £1.70, £8.90. DF: £50.80. CSF: £124.77. Tricast: £1,924.88.

4.15 (3m ch) 1, John Sam (Mr G Penfold, 9-4 fav; Mandarin's nap); 2, Air Strike (7-1); 3, Marshlander (5-2). 10 ran. NR: Rectory Boy. Hd, 25l. G Penfold. Tote: £2.90; £1.10, £2.80, £1.30. DF: £15.20. CSF: £17.02.

4.45 (3m hdle) 1, Country Damsel (A Tory, 20-1); 2, Rubins Boy (12-1); 3, Dress Up (40-1). Estwing 2-1 fav. 14 ran. 10l, 15l. R Hodges. Tote: £32.10; £5.10, £3.70, £20.00. DF: £4.10 with any other. CSF: £213.73. Tricast: £8,246.35.

5.15 (3m ch) 1, Nearly Handy (Miss M Hill, 10-1); 2, Ballyneery (11-4); 3, Timber Tool (2-1 fav). 10 ran. 7l, 8l. R Hill. Tote: £24.80; £3.40, £1.90, £1.10. DF: £32.90. CSF: £35.04.

Placepot: not won (pool of £2,959.75 carried over to Newton Abbot tomorrow).

Southwell

Going: standard

2.0 (2m 4f hdle) 1, Vestal Hills (A Orkney, 3-1); 2, Blue Bell Ribbons (10-1); 3, Autonomous (25-1). Jane Craig 11-8 fav. 12 ran. 8l, ¾l. J Hellens. Tote: £4.20; £1.10, £2.00, £4.30. DF: £14.90. CSF: £30.46.

2.30 (2m hdle) 1, Vigano (M Foster, 7-4 fav; Thunderer's nap); 2, Sweet 'n' Low (9-4); 3, Rupples (33-1). 18 ran. 15l, 6l. M Pipe. Tote: £3.20; £1.80, £1.70, £13.60. DF: £5.90. CSF: £6.81.

3.0 (2m hdle) 1, Nova Lad (J Lodder, 12-1); 2, Early Breeze (9-4 jt-fav); 3, Elsee-Ess (20-1). Park Street 9-4 jt-fav. 8 ran. 6l, 6l. P Bevan. Tote: £12.70; £3.20, £1.10, £3.80. DF: £85.90. CSF: £37.88. Tricast: £499.95.

3.30 (3m 100yd ch) 1, Mariner's Lad (Mr C Barlow, 33-1); 2, Chance Guy (13-2); 3, Jolle Gazelle (33-1). Commcrag 7-2 fav. 12 ran. 5l, 7l. B Thornley. Tote: £52.60; £8.50, £2.10, £6.10. DF: £345.00. CSF: £210.88.

4.0 (3m 100yd ch) 1, Height Of Fun (J Osborne, 5-2); 2, Royal Mile (15-8 fav); 3, Tree Poppy (11-4). 12 ran. 5l, 1½l. O Sherwood. Tote: £4.00; £1.60, £1.30, £1.30. DF: £4.20. CSF: £7.00.

4.30 (2m hdle) 1, Simple Pleasure (A Orkney, 11-2); 2, Ansty Fox (7-1); 3, Deadline (7-1). Karenomore 11-4 fav. 10 ran. 2l, 8l. Mrs M Stark. Tote: £8.20; £1.70, £2.20, £1.50. DF: £21.30. CSF: £41.24. Tricast: £251.12.

Placepot: £1,887.20.

☐ *The Times* racing team was in fine form yesterday with four winning naps. Our Newmarket Correspondent led the way with Every One A Gem (8-1), supported by *The Times* Private Handicapper (Jokers Patch, 5-1), Mandarin (John Sam, 9-4) and Thunderer (Vigano, 7-4).

RUGBY UNION

Clarification is needed

GERALD DAVIES

NOBODY is certain any longer what being an amateur means or what it should stand for. Or whether, indeed, it stands for anything at all. If there is any agreement between those who are attempting to determine these things, they do not all seem to agree at the same time.

There is an acute awareness that there is an awful lot of loot out there and the administrators, all honourable men, would like their hands on it for what seems to be — or so they say — the good of the game.

The television deals have been fixed, sponsorship is still sought, advertising revenue arranged and ticket prices likely to rise. Books, videos, scarves and all the pretty trinkets you can think of are all purchases to be used for the benefit of grass-roots rugby. This year, there was frothing at the mouth at a Timberland advertisement which was withdrawn from the Twickenham match programme and which, incidentally, must have thrilled the Timberland men no end, seeing that the ensuing publicity stretched far beyond the boundaries of the Twickenham car park. This was explained on the grounds that the material, which included a display of England players, was rugby related.

However, a year ago, the Twickenham programme included an advertisement on behalf of a very equitable building society and which gave full-page prominence to Rory Underwood. Below the great man the legend read: "You're in equally safe hands with the Woolwich". This was sanctioned by the authorities yet nobody had sought the player's permission. There were benefits for the union, none for the player.

What fine distinction existed between the Timberland advert and that of the Woolwich? There is a strange morality operating within rugby which *allows a player to* be exploited but rules that the player cannot make any financial gain from rugby-related activities.

The players in this uncertain mood are forced to have a vision of themselves which is, to say the least, eccentric. Last year, rugby players wanted to open supermarkets.

This year, everybody sees himself as a potential orator at the forum. When Paul Thorburn put the point to the Welsh squad, every player, except for himself and two others, voted in favour of being paid to make speeches at rugby clubs. Each one sees himself clearly as the budding rugby equivalent of a Lloyd George. I hope they are good. The clubs will want their money's worth.

But while extraordinary efforts are being expended to determine whether a player can be paid for merely appearing at a rugby function or whether he gets a pocketful of fivers only if he delivers a speech; or indeed spent deciding *whether the function,* the speech, his presence and what the player wears are rugby related. These may be thought peripheral.

If the authorities could just glance the other way for a moment as they attempt to shut some stable doors, they might see that the horse is already cantering in the car park. There was much significance in the announcement made by the International Board last week of an increase from £20 to £40 a day in reimbursement to disadvantaged players. In other words, they are being paid to train and play at international level.

A union's demands on a player's time has forced this to happen. Since squads meet at more frequent intervals, and this inflow of cash will encourage more, how soon will it be before the word, disadvantaged, will be given a wider interpretation so as to apply to everybody? The International Board needs to make a firmer statement on what the amateur principles should mean.

Neath retain title in thrilling finish

By MICHAEL STEVENSON

THE general standard of the open tournament at the Rosslyn Park seven-a-sides was not as high as in some years, but yesterday's play moved to a superb climax with a thrilling *semi-final* between the tournament's best teams, Neath and Millfield.

Millfield had survived a testing encounter with Solihull, which they won 10-6, whereas Neath enjoyed two armchair rides against Chislehurst and Sidcup and Hymers.

An early *Neath try* was answered by Millfield before the sides exchanged goals. Early in extra time, some uncharacteristic hesitancy from the excellent Millfield stand-off half, Dix, allowed Neath the inch or two they needed. Williams scampered, Howells handled slickly and the gap was there for James.

Campion, who had such a great season in 15-a-side rugby, accounted for a depleted Llandovery side, also in extra time, 14-10, and the soundness of their tackling suggested that the final would be no pushover.

So it proved. Campion, with Hoare, Smith and Friel, particularly, tackling like demons, disrupted Neath's rhythm initially. Just before the interval Hoare broke and, though he could have scored himself, put Slater in to earn his side a 4-0 lead.

Considering the stern test that Millfield had represented, Neath's comeback was heroic. They did not possess a weak link, but with regard to workrate, the captain, Evans, was supreme. He helped his side to drive downfield and force a five-metre scrum. Play was edged to the line, and when the ball came back on the Campion side, James, of Neath, was first to the touchdown. Howells converted.

Neath made sure of the title when Evans made the half-break, fed Thrupp and he threw a massive pass out to Williams, who scored.

RESULTS: Group winners' round: Mount St Mary's 10, Stonyhurst 16; RGS High Wycombe 10, Ampleforth 16; Millfield 16, Solihull 10; Chislehurst and Sidcup 18, St Benedict's 0; Hymers 0, Neath 38. **Byes:** Campion (Hornchurch), Llandovery, RGS Newcastle. **Quarter-finals:** Stonyhurst 16, Campion 6; Ampleforth 8, Llandovery 16; Millfield 28, RGS Newcastle 4; Chislehurst and Sidcup 0, Neath 30. **Semi-finals:** Campion 14, Llandovery 10 (aet); Millfield 10, Neath 14 (aet). **Final:** Neath 10, Campion 4.

Japanese sign off in style

By DAVID HANDS RUGBY CORRESPONDENT

Public Sch Wdrs	**47**
West Japan	**28**

THE Public Schools Wanderers will descend on Wales today for their annual meeting with Penarth, having first paid their respects to the touring side from West Japan at Old Deer Park. If Penarth can bring half the handling skills to the game that the Japanese did yesterday, then the holiday crowd will enjoy themselves.

This was the last of three matches played by the Japanese on their brief tour, which has brought *them* victory over the Scottish Students but defeat against an Oxford University Past and Present XV and, yesterday, against Public School Wanderers, by six goals, two tries and a penalty goal to three goals, a try and two penalties.

They represent the second strongest of Japan's three regions and are drawn from works sides, including Kobe Steel, who have established such strong British links, and intriguingly for the dubious British sense of humour, the Kinki Railway Company. The Kobe players included Shinji Sugimoto, a flanker who was involved in everything they did and covered an enormous amount of ground, even when the dam behind him appeared to have burst.

Although he was not among the try-scorers, Kent Bray enjoyed himself too. The Australian, an Oxford Blue in 1989, was the architect of most of the long-range tries scored by the home side, with Caskie and Eagle the prime beneficiaries. The Wanderers conceded the lead briefly during a well-contested first *half but Bray* found breaching the Japanese line far too easy after the interval and his colleagues took full advantage.

The best of the tries before half-time, when the Wanderers led 19-12, came when Hamlin broke blind and found Etheridge, once of Gloucester, and Preedy, still of Gloucester, with him. Preedy placed a delicate grubber for Eagle and the ball was spun back left via Pegler and Reed to Caskie. In the second half, Appleson, who has established himself with London Scottish this season, had the chance to stretch his legs and the Wanderers looked likely to run away with the match before a strong rally brought West Japan the final three tries.

The last was the product of adventurous play from their own line, their forwards pouring into support and making 80 metres before being stopped. However their tight-knit scrum ensured further possession and though Tamura's pass went to ground, Akayama scooped up a kind bounce to score under the posts.

SCORERS: Public Schools Wanderers: Tries: Eagle (2), Caskie (2), Sims, Clarke, Hudson, Appleson. **Conversions:** Bray (6). **Penalty goal:** Bray. **West Japan: Tries:** Sugimoto, Tamura, Akutsu, Akayama. **Conversions:** Nagaoka (3). **Penalty goals:** Nagaoka (2).

PUBLIC SCHOOLS WANDERERS: K Bray (Harlequins); J Eagle (Harlequins; rep: J Evans, Swansea University), P Reed (Cambridge University), D Caskie (Gloucester), M Appleson (London Scottish), M Hamlin (Gloucester; rep: R Greed, Bedford), S Jardine (Glamorgan Wanderers), M Preedy (Gloucester), J McFarland (Saracens), M Jones (Oxford University), M Hudson (Askeans), J Etheridge (Northampton), D Sims (Gloucester; rep: A Powling, Wasps), D Pegler (Wasps, captain), S Clarke (Saracens).

WEST JAPAN: Y Akayama; Y Akutsu, H Minami, M Tamura, N Nagaoka; H Yatsuki, S Sakaki; S Kanehira, T Okamoto, S Koga, R Hirose, M Shigemura, M Kimura, S Sugimoto, H Takamori.

Referee: G Beaumont (London).

☐ The Nottingham hooker, Roger Taylor, will miss the Pilkington Cup semi-final against Harlequins on April 6 because of a recurrence of shoulder and neck injuries and could be out of action for the rest of the season.

"It's a great pity for Roger because he has been a marvellous understudy to Brian Moore for so long," Ken Thomas, the Nottingham manager, said.

Strett closing steadily on the 300 club

MARTIN Strett's 12 points in the B international between England and Italy on Wednesday hauled him closer to 300 points for the season (David Hands writes). He occupies third place in the English rankings, but Andy Green, the Exeter stand-off half who lies *second, maintained a gap* by taking every chance in the divisional B match at Weston.

Green kicked two conversions and two penalties in the South-West's 24-18 defeat by London and is now only six points behind John Liley.

Glynn Melville, the Otley wing, is now out on his own as the country's leading try-scorer. Twelve tries in his last six matches have given him a total of 31 for the season and helped assure his club of promotion from division four (north).

LEADING POINTS SCORERS: 323: J Liley (Leicester). 317: A Green (Exeter). 283: M Strett (Orrell). 280: S Hodgkinson (Nottingham). 267: R Ashworth (Havant). 258: J Graves (Rosslyn Park). 257: S Blake (Redruth). 240: R Booth (Sale). 228: M Rodgers (Sheffield). 224: P Grayson (Preston Grasshoppers).
TRIES: 31: G Melville (Otley). 28: D Cooke (West Hartlepool). 22: O Evans (West Hartlepool), E Saunders (Rugby). 21: J Walker (Otley), G Ainscough (Orrell).
DROPPED GOALS: 19: R Mills (Walsall). 18: A Rimmer (Broughton Park).
Statistics by Results-Unisys.

Blacksheep impress by enjoying defeat

PERHAPS the most interesting entrants to *this year's Rosslyn* Park schools sevens were the Feltham Blacksheep, who came in as late replacements, lost all their matches, but appeared to enjoy themselves hugely (Michael Stevenson writes).

They are all members of the Feltham young offenders institute, which is part of the prison system. They have committed offences which would carry a minimum sentence of 14 years had they been adults but, given the runaround by the likes of Wellington College, one of the most famous rugby schools in the land, they *never put a foot or hand wrong.*

After losing their final match, 10-0, to Sutton Valance, their verdict was a resounding wish to play more rugby of all sorts, especially sevens, quite a tribute to the game and their mentors.

Solihull, with 17 wins from 17 games and 514 points scored to *84 conceded, enjoyed a wonderful* season. The pack was well led by No. 8, James Vertigen, and their Midlands trio of Matthew Gallagher, Richard Chapman and Christopher Wakeman, provided pace and penetration outside the scrum. They have won three sevens tournaments, at Wrekin, Solihull as hosts, and at Stonyhurst and reached the *semi-finals of the British Aero*space sevens at Fylde.

Methodist College, Belfast, won the Ulster Bank Cup for the third successive time, beating the only team, **Coleraine Academical Institution**, to have defeated them this season, 23-7, in appalling conditions. It was 7-7 at half-time but MCB proved the more powerful and better organised team.

As well as winning the British Aerospace sevens, **Widnes Sixth Form College** have had their best season ever. They won 15 matches, losing only to **Caldey Grange GS** (8-30) and scored 577 points to 174 conceded. Their talented centre, Gary Cristie, is in the Great Britain under-19 side and several of their boys also play rugby league for Lancashire, but, so far, honours in the union game have escaped them.

Durham, who lost only two matches, to **Sedbergh** (9-10) and **Ampleforth** (7-8), both by a single point, won their other ten games, scoring 301 points to 38 conceded. In addition, they registered a clean sweep in the Durham County sevens, winning at first seven level as well as at under-16, under-15 and under-14 level.

Front-runner wins the sprint for unification

From DAVID MILLER IN JOHANNESBURG

There are many people who have worked towards the breakthrough in South Africa's international sporting relations which took place here on Wednesday with the International Olympic Committee s (IOC) announcement of conditional recognition. Possibly most influential of all has been a short, rotund, self-effacing personnel officer with the Anglo-American Oil Company: Mluleki George.

Juan Antonio Samaranch deserves credit for the establishment in 1988 of the apartheid commission, which created an official platform within the IOC for consideration of circumstances surrounding South Africa's continuing exclusion. In conjunction with consultation with Fekrou Kidane, the widely-respected former Olympic official of Ethiopia, and Sam Ramsamy, the London-based leader of the South African Non-Racial Olympic Committee (Sanroc), exploratory meetings were set up last year in Harare with approval of the African National Congress (ANC) and of the Association of National Olympic Committees of Africa (Anoca). A tide of events had begun.

Yet none of this might have been possible but for the creation, two years ago, of the National Sports Congress, also backed by ANC. "Olympic" was added to the title last year (NOSC). The guiding light was George, NOSC's president, together with his general secretary, Mthobi Tyamzashe.

"We were the first to talk of unification," George says. "And we were doing this at a time when the South African Council on Sport (Sacos) and others were still insisting on the principle of 'no normal sport in an abnormal society'. Yet if we had continued with this, when would unification have ever begun? We, NOSC, were the first to say that South African sport had to prepare itself for the future, for the freedom that was coming."

A consequence of the creation of NOSC, and George's brave divergence from the accepted black political line in sport, personified by Sacos, was the defection of various individual affiliated sports bodies from Sacos to NOSC last year.

"We're no longer as radical as Sacos used to be," George says. "Can we carry them with us (during the 180 days of the IOC's provisional recognition)? That's very hard to predict. It is one thing to insist that normalisation must be total, that everyone should have the vote in addition to the abolition of the apartheid laws. But if you wait too long, then by the time absolute freedom arrives, what will have become of sport? You will have problems. Look at the situation in Namibia."

It was eight years ago that I first started to suggest, in these columns, that an international re-acceptance of integrated South African sport — where it reasonably existed in multi-racial as opposed to predominently white sports — would provide a powerful force for change, within other sports and throughout society generally, especially by the creation of black South African sports heroes recognised overseas.

The idea was scoffed at by the intellectual left in Britain, who predominantly had not been to South Africa — we narrowly lost an Oxford Union debate on the issue in 1984 — and was also rejected by the radical African blacks, who believed that the external pressure on South Africa had to be maintained.

My proposal was premature, I admit. The African/UN view has proved to be right: President de Klerk's dismantling of the apartheid laws would be unlikely to have arrived without the maintenance of the international sport, and trade, boycott. Now the idea has logical merit.

"The compromise on principle (of demanding absolute freedom and equality) can help to pull in the extremes of radicals on both sides," George says. "The thing that will prevent the compromise working is if we move too fast" — which is why the IOC's 180-day adjustment period is a wise if not essential breathing period.

"I'm expecting a split among the whites," George says. "I don't think the AWB (the far right conservative whites) will move with us. But supposing foreign sports tours begin again once the moratorium is over: will the AWB still stay on the sideline?"

George is encouraged in his view by the fact that individual clubs belonging to the South African National Football Association, the Sacos-affiliated body, are deserting to join the new unified body, the South African Football Association (Safa), formed last week. "We expect the same to happen to rugby," George says, having been appointed Safa's president and initiating the application for recognition by Fifa, the international governing body.

George's sporting background has been rugby — a prop forward, I would suppose, although I forgot to ask — with the Border Rugby Union in the eastern Cape. He is convener of the disciplinary committee of the multiracial South Africa Rugby Union (SARU), and deeply involved in unification proposals with Danie Craven's South African Rugby Board (SARB). The SARU committee — with half a million players to Craven's 750,000 — will consider ratification of proposals on April 14 and 15.

The speed of change seems unstoppable, particularly now that Nelson Mandela has given his backing to unification under the new Interim National Olympic Committee of South Africa. "We, the non-racialists, believe unification must be achieved for the sake of sport," George says. "We must be honest: the conservative whites *and* the radical blacks. It's possible. I believe it's going to work."

When the IOC considers electing a South African member to their ranks — the last was Reginald Honey, who died in 1982 — then men such as Mluleki George will be the frontrunners.

Ramsamy: summit in Harare

ALAN WELLER

CRICKET

Dismissal of Jones advances case for Test match referee

From JOHN WOODCOCK, IN GEORGETOWN, GUYANA

THE cricket talk here centres at least as much on the manner in which Dean Jones's brief innings ended on Wednesday afternoon as on Australia's attempt to save the second Test match against West Indies.

To recapitulate. Jones, believing himself to have been bowled by a legitimate ball from Walsh, made off to the pavilion. He was batting at the end from which the pavilion stands at deep extra cover, so that in walking towards it, he moved out of his ground.

The West Indians knowing that a no-ball had been called thought, as the umpires evidently did, that by uprooting a stump (the wicket was already broken) they would have the batsman out, provided the ball was "held in the hand of the arm so used".

This duly happened: Jones, still out of his ground, was given out; Mark Waugh came in and play continued.

There were, however, enough people on the ground, though not very many, who realised that the Laws of Cricket state incontestably that Jones should not have been given out. In one (27:5) it says: "The umpires shall intervene if satisfied that a batsman, not having been given out, has left his wicket under a misapprehension that he has been dismissed; in another (38:2) that "if a no-ball has been called, the striker shall not be given run out unless he attempts to run."

Whereas everyone is agreed therefore that Jones was wrongly given out, there is no such unanimity over what should subsequently have occurred or on whether the West Indians were guilty of sharp practice. When, during the tea interval, 45 minutes later, the umpires' error was pointed out to them, they said their decision would stand.

Bobby Simpson, the Australian cricket manager, while obliged to accept this ruling, said it was "sad" the West Indians had done what they had, adding that "there are codes of conduct which always ought to be obeyed."

The inference was clear. Simpson felt the West Indians had been over zealous, not to say downright unsporting. The Australian team thought the same at the time, some of them claiming they would never themselves have run out a batsman in such a way. Personally, I doubt the validity of that, and so, from what he said at the end of the match does Border.

Because of the intensity with which Test cricket is now played, in an exactly similar situation, there would almost certainly be those on every side to act, instinctively, just as the West Indians did.

What Richards and his side could, and probably should be regretting, is that they did not ask for Jones to be recalled before he had reached the pavilion. There have been countless instances of this, and Dujon, the West Indian wicketkeeper, is said to have questioned, there and then, the legality, if not the fairness, of what had happened.

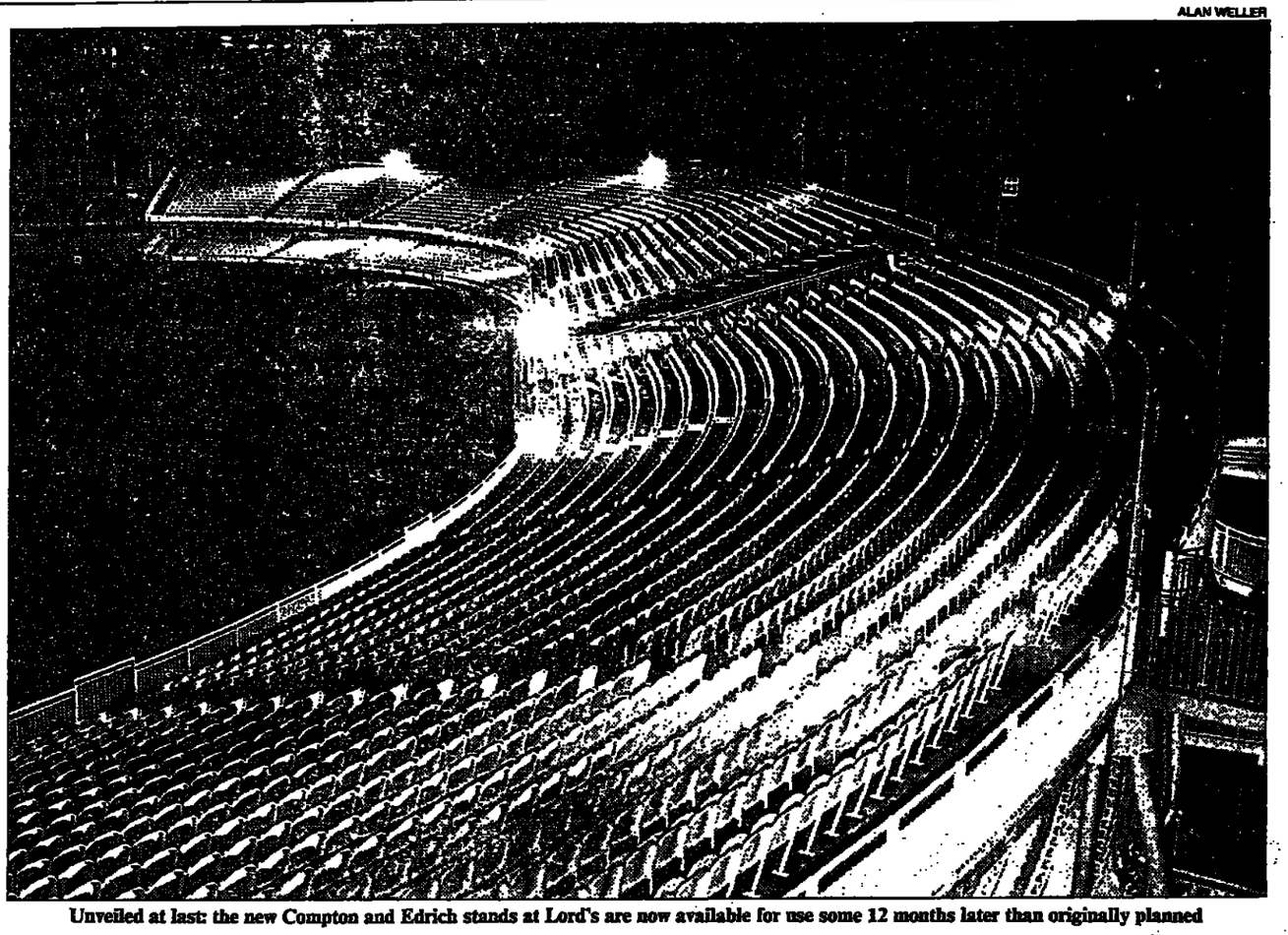
To some extent, Jones had himself to blame. He is not obliged to wear a helmet and would have been more likely to hear the umpire's call without one.

But when McDermott, later in the day, having been bowled by a no-ball, also started to walk off — the ball went to the boundary this time — it did suggest that the clank and clamour even from a small West Indian crowd can be fairly deafening. All told, some 90 no-balls were called in the match, from which only Jones and McDermott were "out".

As I wrote at the time, I felt the best solution would have been for an agreement to have been reached at tea time for Jones to go in again at the fall of the next wicket.

The West Indians would have come well out of that; so would the Australians, so would the umpires and so would the game. And there is nothing in the laws to have prevented it. "But what a dangerous precedent," I was told. To which, let Disraeli make reply: "A precedent embalms a principle."

From October onwards, there is to be an independent referee at every Test match. Having previously rather scoffed at the idea, I have to admit that on this occasion it would have been useful and interesting to have one. It would be nice to think, too, that he would have told the umpires to watch Marshall's follow through and the West Indians to look to their over rate. Someone must do, because they never will themselves.



Unveiled at last: the new Compton and Edrich stands at Lord's are now available for use some 12 months later than originally planned

Headquarters is spick and span again

By ALAN LEE CRICKET CORRESPONDENT

AFTER a year of delay, disarray and considerable discontent, Lord's has reverted from unsightly building site to showpiece ground. The new Nursery End stands, originally due for completion in time for last season, have been unveiled, Hollywood style, in a floodlit ceremony conducted by relieved officers of MCC.

The Compton and Edrich stands, occupying the space which Lord's regulars will doubtless still wishfully refer to as "the free seats", will hold 9,151 spectators, raising the ground capacity by more than 4,000 to virtually 28,000 for this summer's Tests against West Indies and Sri Lanka and the perennially over-subscribed cup finals.

MCC is rightly proud of the appearance of the stands for, as the president, Lord Griffiths, said: "Lord's is still a cricket ground, not a copy of a baseball stadium". The design has ensured that the church and trees of St John's Wood remain visible from the pavilion, beyond the new structure.

The game's guardians are not, however, so proud of the fact that completion is a year late, not of the consequent increase in expense and loss of revenue. A delay clause in the building contract will allow approximately £500,000 to be reclaimed but Lord Griffiths made it clear that the issue is likely to reverberate a while longer. "The financial consequences to all concerned will be the subject of future discussions and negotiations," he said.

It was Paul Getty Jr, one of cricket's most generous benefactors in recent years, who made the project attainable with a donation of £1.6 million, but it is Denis and Bill, friends and entertainers for so long, who are appropriately commemorated.

Edrich, sadly, is not alive to enjoy the moment but Compton was very much alive at Lord's the other evening, and highly delighted by the honour, which will officially be bestowed on him at the formal opening during the one-day international against West Indies on May 27.

"Just think," Compton said, flushed with the glow of reminiscence, "a stand named after me, who started out here as a 14-year-old ground boy in 1932, sweeping up and doing all the menial jobs. Quite a thing, isn't it?"

Almost 50 years on, Compton is a favourite part of the furniture at Lord's. The honour, if anything, is overdue. But with that familiar twinkle, he was anxious to point out one remarkable shortcoming in the design of "his" stand. "There are no bars in it," he chuckled.

☐ Peter Eaton, Sussex's head groundsman for 25 years, has been appointed deputy pitch consultant to the Test and County Cricket Board. The pitches at Hove are recognised as among the best in the country and Eaton, aged 48, has won the national award for top groundsman on three occasions.

☐ Kent have signed Martin McCague, aged 21, a right-arm fast bowler with Western Australia who took six wickets in his first match for the state side. McCague was born in Larne, Northern Ireland, and when this was discovered several counties were interested. But Kent moved first, on the recommendation of Daryl Foster, their coach from Western Australia.

☐ Glamorgan have reported a loss of £63,000 on last year.

SNOW REPORTS

	Depth (cm) L	Depth (cm) U	Conditions Piste	Conditions Off/P	Runs to resort	Weather + temp (5pm)	°C	Last snow fall
AUSTRIA								
Mayrhofen	0	30	fair	powder	closed	snow	0	28/3
New snow improving upper slopes								
Obergurgl	25	140	good	varied	slushy	snow	-4	28/3
Excellent skiing after overnight snow								
Schladming	0	20	slushy	heavy	closed	cloud	4	27/3
Closure imminent								
FRANCE								
Chamonix	20	270	fair	spring	closed	sun	6	27/3
Good skiing on upper slopes								
Flaine	36	210	icy	fair	worn	sun	0	27/3
Icy on piste, soft off								
La Plagne	90	250	good	varied	fair	sun	3	27/3
Good skiing after snowfall								
Tignes	115	230	good	heavy	slushy	fine	3	25/3
Good on upper slopes								
Val Thorens	60	180	fair	varied	slushy	fine	2	27/3
Good on upper slopes								
ITALY								
Courmayeur	40	200	good	varied	—	fair	4	25/3
Upper runs in good condition								
SWITZERLAND								
Arosa	10	70	fair	powder	worn	cloud	0	27/3
Excellent skiing on upper slopes								
Davos	0	60	good	powder	closed	snow	-1	28/3
Upper runs in good condition								
Grindelwald	0	40	good	varied	closed	cloud	8	27/3
Good upper slopes, bad visibility.								
Mürren	20	90	good	powder	worn	fair	0	27/3
New snow giving excellent skiing								
Saas fee	35	390	good	varied	fair	fine	5	27/3
Excellent on upper slopes. Long queues								
Villars	5	30	worn	heavy	closed	cloud	3	22/3
Limited skiing, confined to Bretaye								
Wengen	0	50	good	varied	closed	fine	4	27/3
Good easter piste skiing above 2,000m								

In the above reports, supplied by representatives of the Ski Club of Great Britain, L refers to lower slopes and U to upper, and art to artificial.

SCOTLAND

Cairngorm: snow level, 2,000ft; vertical runs, 2,000ft. Runs: upper and middle complete, hard packed, lower, few complete, thin and narrow in places. Access roads open; chairlifts and eight tows open. **Glenshee:** snow level, 2,000ft; vertical runs, 1,500ft. Runs: upper and lower, some complete, narrow. Access roads open: chairlifts and ten tows open. **Lecht:** snow level, 3,000ft; vertical runs, nil. Runs: main and beginner, patches only. Access roads open, lows all closed. Skiing finished for season unless further snow. **Aonach Mor:** snow level, 2,300ft; vertical runs, 1,700ft. Runs: upper complete, most wide; lower, patches only. Access roads open: Gondola and showgoose chairlift open, two tows open. **Glencoe** snow level, 2,000ft; vertical runs, 1,600ft. Runs: upper and lower complete, spring snow, hard base. Access roads open, all chairlifts and tows open.

Forecast: Starting off bright with sunshine at all resorts. Freezing levels will be around 2,800ft, rising to the summits later. Winds will be south to southwesterly, picking up from light to moderate or fresh, strong in the west. Becoming cloudier as the afternoon progresses, though it should remain dry. Outlook: Rain and snow reaching all resorts overnight, reducing again to occasional showers by Saturday. Winds will be strong to gale force southwesterly with these conditions prevailing through to Sunday.

© Information supplied by the Scottish Meteorological Office.

Gobi rally

Mongolia is staging a nine-day international motor rally in August and has invited competitors from 52 countries. It will cover 6,000 kilometres (3,750 miles) and include the Gobi desert in the south.

MOTOR RACING

Gravett frets while rivals test tour cars

By STEPHEN SLATER

ROBB Gravett, the defending British touring car champion, is facing a battle against time to complete his new car for the opening round of the 1991 Esso British touring car championship, which starts at Silverstone on Monday.

In line with a change in championship rules, Gravett's Shell Trakstar are preparing a 2-litre Ford Sierra Sapphire. However, delays forced the team to miss a pre-race test day at Silverstone yesterday, when other front-running teams showed how close the competition has become. Less than a second covered the lap times of the six fastest cars.

Heading the time sheet was the Securicor BMW, of Will Hoy, but just tenths of a second slower were the Vauxhall Cavaliers of John Cleland and Jeff Allam, the newly-built Toyota Carina, of Andy Rouse, the Laban's BMWs, of Laurence Bristow and Tim Harvey and the second Securicor car driven by Ray Bell.

Three British drivers, who head the field in the opening round of the British Formula 3000 championship — starting at Oulton Park today — are all hoping to become the first Briton to win the series. Paul Warwick, in his Mobil Mansell Madgwick car, Phyl Andrews, from Birmingham, and his Superpower Lola team-mate, Richard Dean, have all gained past international championship experience, but have returned to the British series in an attempt to take the title.

SQUASH RACKETS

Martin falls victim to Parke's game plan

By COLIN MCQUILLAN

SIMON Parke, the junior world champion from England, yesterday stepped firmly into the front rank of the seniors by defeating Rodney Martin, of Australia, the world No. 5, by 15-13, 8-15, 17-15, 15-11 in 61 minutes in the second round of the Scottish Open championship in Glasgow.

Following close upon a similarly committed hour-long first round win over Rodney Eyles, another Australian ranked below his real worth at fifteen in the world, this result suggests that Parke, at the age of 18, is a threat to anyone.

Only the great Pakistanis, Jahangir Khan and Jansher Khan, have had such impact at such an early age. Martin, a renowned shot-maker who is one of only three men to have beaten both Khans, has contested the last three British Open finals with Jahangir.

Parke was his master, however. Feeling that he was playing at the top of his game, the Yorkshire teenager decided to go hard for Martin on the principle that shot-makers can be pushed into marginal errors.

"I decided to get everything back and hit any opening that came," he said coming off the court. "I can hardly believe it worked so well."

Martin also appeared disbelieving. He accepted Parke's challenge with early good humour, contributing his long legs and educated racket to running rallies of supreme quality. But, as Parke had accurately forecast, the errors came too.

The first game finished to Parke's credit on a timed backhand drop shot. The second was better controlled by Martin but the third brought from him a disastrous mix of marvellous instinctive accuracy and marginal mistakes.

The heart of the match rested on a battle of nerve and resilience from 11-11 in that third game which Parke won with distinction.

Martin hit three tins and stumbled over a cross-court passing shot to give Parke a 14-11 lead, then retrieved the situation with four stunningly unanswerable shots to nicks on either hand.

Parke cautiously opted for the longer three-point tie-break, lost the first point to a clinical forehand straight nick, but then wove Martin into a fabric of tenacious, fast-paced retrieval that sponsored more tinned errors and gave him the vital 2-1 lead.

The fourth game finished on a note of some superiority with Martin contributing five errors from 7-7 and losing from 11-11 in a single hand after Parke had hunted down his best shots in a frantic, extended rally which the youngster won by flicking a full stretch forehand pick-up past his opponent down the right-hand wall.

RESULTS: Second round: P Marshall (Eng) bt B Beason (Eng), 15-9, 15-8, 15-7; S Parke (Eng) bt R Martin (Aus), 15-13, 8-15, 17-15, 15-11; A Hill (Aus) bt G Wade (Can), 15-11, 15-6, 15-9; C Dittmar (Aus) bt P whitlock (Eng), 15-9, 14-15, 15-0, 9-15, 15-6.

TRY THIS AT EASTER

Denis Tingay's sporting suggestions for the Easter Weekend

CYCLING: National League: Easter Monday meeting: The first round of the sprinters and points series will be staged on Monday at the Butts Stadium in Coventry.

Eight rounds will be staged through the course of the season, with the final placings deciding titles and British team selections. In the sprints, Chris Pyatt, Gary Hibbert, Peter Boyd and Martin Phillips are all capable of taking victory, while former national champion, Geoff Snodin will be fighting off strong challenges from Sean Macken and Matthew Chanty in the Leon Meredith points race.

Three classes of competition, junior, senior and women, represented by 95 riders, will compete in 19 events, with preliminaries starting at 11.30 and the main races at 1.30.

EVENT DETAILS: The stadium is situated on the Butts road, running between Birmingham and Coventry. Entry fees are £2 for adults, £1 for children, with parking and refreshment facilities available.

MOTORCYCLING: World and European superbike championships: Three days of world class competition, highlighted by the Donington International Jubilee race, take place over the Easter break at Donington Park, near Derby.

Among those favoured to pick up the £5,000 race prize is Ron Haslam, recently signed up by JPS Norton to spearhead a future British challenge in the world 500cc championship.

In the opening round of World Superbike season, Raymond Roche on a Ducati heads the field, while Britain's entry, one of the strongest ever, includes Neil McKenzie and Carl Fogarty, both on Honda, and Terry Rymer on Yamaha.

EVENT DETAILS: Saturday has been set aside for practice, with racing proper taking place on Sunday and Monday. Sunday's events include the Jubilee race and European superbike and sidecar championships, with the opening rounds of the World Superbike and European 125 and 600cc championships being staged on Monday. Prices are £3 (Saturday), £8 (Sunday) and £12 (Monday). Accompanied children under 15 are admitted free. Parking and refreshment facilities will be available.

UNIVERSITIES FOOTBALL MATCH: The University match has returned to its roots with the annual encounter between Oxford and Cambridge taking place on Boat Race day at Craven Cottage, home of Fulham Football Club.

In recent years, the 118-year-old fixture has been played in December, but after Oxford's representative at the Football Association discovered that back in 1873 it coincided with a springtime Boat Race, it was rescheduled in order to recapture the glamour of the event.

The kick-off time has been fixed at 11.0, in order to give spectators time to leave the ground and reach the river for the Boat Race, due to start at Putney at 1.20.

EVENT DETAILS: Craven Cottage is situated in Stevenage Road, Fulham, close to Putney Bridge (also the nearest tube station). Tickets cost £5 (standing) and £8. Parking is expected to be difficult.

FENCING: Birmingham International: In the lead up to the Barcelona Olympics, tournaments of this stature take on increased importance as competitors worldwide strive to earn points to better their national seeding, giving themselves a greater chance of representing their country in 1992.

Over 400 fencers have entered the tournament, with the men competing in the foil, epee and sabre, and women in foil and epee. Ian Williams, ranked British No. 1 last year in the sabre, competes again this year and is strongly tipped to maintain his position.

EVENT DETAILS: The venue is the Birmingham Sports Centre, in Highgate, and can be reached by taking the A38 out of Birmingham City Centre. Competition takes place on Saturday and Sunday, and starts at 9am both days. Parking and refreshment facilities will be available.

TODAY'S FIXTURES

FOOTBALL

Barclays League

Second division

Oldham v W Ham (all ticket, 3.00)...

Third division

Tranmere v Cambridge Utd (7.30)...

Fourth division

Stockport v Hartlepool (7.30).....

VAUXHALL LEAGUE: Premier division: Wivenhoe v Windsor and Eton.

PONTINS CENTRAL LEAGUE: First division: Rotherham v Sheffield Wed.

WEEKLY WYNNER LEAGUE: Premier division: Belper v Sutton Town.

NORTHERN LEAGUE: First division: Peterlee Newtown v Consett; Seaham Red Star v Ferryhill Athletic; Shildon v Billingham Synthonia; Whitby v Brandon; Whickham v Northallerton; Murton v Tow Law.

RUGBY UNION

CLUB MATCHES: Sale v Preston Grasshoppers (3.00); Vale of Lune v Northern (2.00); Penarth v Pub Scn Wanos (3.30).

RUGBY LEAGUE

STONES BITTER CHAMPIONSHIP: Bradford v Castleford; Featherstone v Wigan (7.30), Hull v Hull KR (3.15). Leeds v Wakefield (7.30); Rochdale v Oldham. **Second division:** Barrow v Nottingham City; Fulham v Chorley; Huddersfield v Batley (7.30); Ryedale York v Doncaster (7.30). Salford v Leigh; Trafford Borough v Swinton (at Wigan, 3.30); Workington v Wakefield (7.30).

OTHER SPORT

BILLIARDS: Strachan UK championship (Bolton).

CANOEING: Devizes to Westminster marathon.

SNOOKER: World professional championship. Qualifying rounds (Preston).

SQUASH RACKETS: Scottish Open (Glasgow).

SWIMMING: Fina World Cup (Sheffield).

Scheme abused

New Zealand's accident compensation system, under which the state pays for sports injuries, may be scrapped, Ruth Richardson, the finance minister, said. It is funded by a tax on employers and on motor fuels.

صورة عن الأصل

FOOTBALL

Mahood's choice is to sign for Forest instead of Chelsea

By LOUISE TAYLOR

BRIAN Clough has a nice line in self-deprecatory humour about some of his expensive mistakes in the transfer market. Yet the man who once paid £1 million for Justin Fashanu gambled once again yesterday when he signed Alan Mahood from Morton for £300,000 shortly before yesterday's tea-time deadline for this season's League transfers.

The Scottish youth international, aged 18, is Clough's first six-figure signing for fifteen months, since the aquisition of David Currie, who was subsequently sold on to Oldham Athletic. A midfield player, Mahood was coveted by Chelsea, but preferred Forest.

On a quiet deadline day in which less than £1 million changed hands, John Barnes put an end to speculation regarding his future by agreeing to a one-year extension, believed to be worth £8,000 a week, to his contract at Liverpool. Barnes, who is keen to move to the Continent at some stage, said: "It was not a hard decision."

Ronnie Moran, the Liverpool manager, said: "I would rather have John playing for us than against us."

On the day that they acquired Mervyn Day on loan from Leeds United for the remainder of the season, Coventry City were also heartened by the signature of their own goalkeeper, Steve Ogrizovic on a three-year contract.

West Bromwich Albion bolstered their attempt to stay in the second division with the purchase of three players — Winston White, from Burnley, for £35,000, Paul Williams, from Stockport County for £250,000, and Kwame Ampadu, on loan from Arsenal. Brian Talbot, the former West Brom manager, was recruited as a non-contract player by Aldershot.

Notts County's attempts to win promotion from the second divison were strengthened by the arrival of Steve Davis, a central defender, who has been loaned by Southampton until the end of the season. Fellow play-off contenders, Millwall, paid Middlesbrough £100,000 for the midfield services of Paul Kerr, and Bury Town £50,000, for John McGinlay.

Southend United, the third division leaders, invested £100,000 in Pat Scully, Arsenal's Republic of Ireland under-21 international defender, who recently completed a ten-match loan period at Roots Hall. Their fellow promotion contenders, Brentford, aquired Clive Goodyear, a defender, aged 30,on a free transfer from Wimbledon. Mansfield paid Sheffield Wednesday £20,000 for Greg Fee.

In the fourth division, Peterborough's push for promotion was reinforced by the arrival of Greg Swailes, a defender from Ipswich Town, for £30,000, Peter Costello, from Rochdale, Gary Cooper and Ken Charlery, from Maidstone United, Patrick Gavin, from Leicester City, and Darren Morgan, on loan from Millwall.

Lincoln City paid Scunthorpe United £30,000 for Paul Ward, and sold Darren Davis to Maidstone United for £27,500, and Keith Scott to Wycombe Wanderers for £30,000.

Colchester United's determination to escape the GM Vauxhall Conference and return to the League was endorsed by the signature of David Leworthy, from Reading, and Rudi Hedman, from Crystal Palace, on loan.

A League spokesman said that the drop in transfers was due to clubs needing to set money aside for ground improvements to meet the demands of the Taylor report.

☐ Crystal Palace announced a gross operating profit of £1,799,535 for the year ending June 30 1990 at their annual general meeting yesterday. In a record-breaking year, turnover reached £5.6 million, their FA Cup final appearances boosting figures by £750,000.

Saunders worth put above £8.5m

By CLIVE WHITE

GUILTY of hyperbole he may have been, but yesterday one could excuse Terry Yorath, the Wales manager, for valuing Dean Saunders, the Principality's saviour in Brussels on Wednesday night, more highly than Paul Gascoigne, who is destined to become the world's most expensive player at £8.5 million, if Lazio have their way.

After the two weeks that Yorath has just had, what with a court appearance for an alleged driving offence followed by his unamicable parting with Swansea City, he had a right to feel chuffed about Saunders. The goal scored by the Derby County player in the 1-1 draw against Belgium was responsible for adding substance to Wales's dream of qualifying for the European championship finals.

"Talk about £8 million for Gascoigne, Saunders is probably worth as much if not more," Yorath said. "Derby are bottom of the League and he's still scoring goals. I am sure he will end up somewhere on the Continent, unless one of the big British clubs move in for him. He possesses the one ingredient that everybody looks for — pace."

However invidious comparisons with the Tottenham Hotspur player may be, no one would dispute that a player with Saunders's goalscoring knack, even at the highest level and at the age of 26, is worth his weight in gold to the rich continental clubs. For an impoverished international side like the Welsh, it is impossible to put a price on that ability.

Wales, lacking a top-class creative player, as they have done probably since Ivor Allchurch graced the inside forward position, will not always create many chances. Against a vastly superior Belgian side they provided just one in the first hour and Saunders accepted it emphatically, bringing his total to ten goals in 24 appearances, including five in the last seven.

Saunders had, according to Yorath, achieved his ambition of being considered with the same respect as Ian Rush and Mark Hughes. It is a further compliment to him that Hughes, the PFA Player of the Year should be obliged to accommodate Saunders by taking up a midfield role after Yorath aborted his attempt to deploy Saunders as a winger.

It may be to early to get excited about the Wales chances of achieving — for the first time — automatic qualification for the finals of a big competition, particularly as they have yet to face Germany, the world champions, but there is a new-found resilience, or perhaps it is just luck, about Wales which encourages one to think that perhaps this time it might be different.

Fouls on Hughes penalised

By LOUISE TAYLOR

PASCAL Baills, the Montpellier player who was sent off for a foul on Mark Hughes during the French team's European Cup Winners' Cup quarter-final first leg against Manchester United at Old Trafford earlier this month, was yesterday suspended for five games by Uefa's disciplinary committee.

Meeting in Zurich, the committee also imposed a three-game ban on Jean Manuel Thetis, also of Montpellier, who was dismissed for spitting at Hughes in the return leg, which was won by United, in France on March 19.

United are due to face Legia Warsaw, of Poland, in the semi-final. The Polish's club's ambitions were dented by the disciplinary commission's decision to suspend its goalkeeper, Maciej Szczesny, for four games *after his sending off in the* quarter-final for fouling Roberto Mancini, of the Italian club, Sampdoria.

Legia Warsaw's coach, Stanislaw Terlechi, was also barred from involvement in European competition for two years and the club fined $6,900.

☐ ROME: Diego Maradona tested positive for drug use after the Naples-Bari game on March 17, the newspaper, *La Repubblica* reported. It quoted unidentified Italian federation sources. A federation spokesman refused to comment but said that results of a second test will be available by the end of *the week*.

EUROPEAN CHAMPIONSHIP POSITIONS

Group two

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Scotland	4	2	2	0	6	4	6
Switzerland	3	2	0	1	7	2	4
Romania	4	2	0	2	10	6	4
Bulgaria	4	1	2	1	5	4	4
San Marino	3	0	0	3	1	13	0

RESULTS: Scotland 2, Romania 1; Switzerland 2, Bulgaria 0; Scotland 2, Switzerland 1; Romania 0, Bulgaria 3; Bulgaria 1, Scotland 1; San Marino 0, Switzerland 4; Romania 6, San Marino 0; Scotland 1, Bulgaria 1; San Marino 1, Romania 3.

REMAINING FIXTURES: April 3: Switzerland v Romania. May 1: San Marino v Scotland; Bulgaria v Switzerland. May 22: San Marino v Bulgaria. June 5: Switzerland v San Marino. Sept 11: Switzerland v Scotland. Oct 16: Romania v Scotland; Bulgaria v San Marino. Nov 13: Scotland v San Marino; Romania v Switzerland. Nov 20: Bulgaria v Romania.

Group four

RESULTS: Northern Ireland 0, Yugoslavia 2; Faeroe Islands 1, Austria 0; Denmark 4, Faeroe Islands 1; Northern Ireland 1, Denmark 1; Yugoslavia 4, Austria 1; Austria 0, Northern Ireland 0; Denmark 0, Yugoslavia 2; Yugoslavia 4, Northern Ireland 1.

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Yugoslavia	4	4	0	0	12	2	8
Denmark	3	1	1	1	5	4	3
Faeroe Islands	2	1	0	1	2	4	2
N Ireland	4	0	2	2	2	7	2
Austria	3	0	1	2	1	5	1

REMAINING FIXTURES: May 1: Northern Ireland v Faeroe Islands; Yugoslavia v Denmark. May 15: Yugoslavia v Faeroe Islands. May 22: Austria v Faeroe Islands. June 5: Denmark v Austria. Sept 11: Faeroe Islands v Northern Ireland. Oct 9: Austria v Denmark. Oct 16: Northern *Ireland v Austria*; Faeroe Islands v Yugoslavia. Nov 13: Denmark v Northern Ireland; Austria v Yugoslavia.

Group five

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Wales	3	2	1	0	5	2	5
Belgium	3	1	1	1	5	4	3
Germany	1	1	0	0	3	2	2
Luxembourg	3	0	0	3	2	7	0

RESULTS: Wales 3, Belgium 1; Luxembourg 2, Germany 3; Luxembourg 0, Wales 1; Belgium 3, Luxembourg 0; Belgium 1, Wales 1.

REMAINING FIXTURES: May 1: Germany v Belgium. June 5: Wales v Germany. Sept 11: Luxembourg v Belgium. Oct 16: Germany v Wales. Nov 13: Wales v Luxembourg. Nov 20: Belgium v Germany. Dec 17: Germany v Luxembourg.

Group seven

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Rep of Ireland	3	1	2	0	7	2	4
England	3	1	2	0	4	2	4
Poland	2	1	0	1	1	2	2
Turkey	2	0	0	2	0	6	0

RESULTS: England 2, Poland 0; Republic of Ireland 5, Turkey 0; Republic of Ireland 1, England 1; Turkey 0, Poland 1; England 1, Republic of Ireland 1.

REMAINING FIXTURES: April 17: Poland v Turkey. May 1: Turkey v England; Republic of Ireland v Poland. Oct 16: England v Turkey; Poland v Republic of Ireland. Nov 13: Poland v England; Turkey v Republic of Ireland.

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FOR THE RECORD

BASKETBALL

EUROPEAN CHAMPION CLUBS CUP: Quarter-final group: Barcelona 83, Kingston 78 (Cunningham 22, Duncamp 18, Clark 12). KORAC CUP: Final, second leg: Cantu (It) 95, Real Madrid 93 (OT) (agg: 168-184). CARLSBERG LEAGUE: First division play-offs: quarter-final second leg: Leicester City Riders 79, Derby Rams 75 (Leicester win 2-0 on agg); Thames Valley Tigers 76, Manchester Giants 75 (agg: 1-1, deciding match needed).
NATIONAL ASSOCIATION (NBA): Detroit Pistons 102, Indiana Pacers 93; Orlando Magic 97, Dallas Mavericks 85; Los Angeles Clippers 95, Utah Jazz 89; Portland Trail Blazers 112, Seattle Supersonics 107.

NETBALL

STAINES: Schools match: England under-16 31, Middlesex under-21 29. Seniors match: England 54, Middlesex 33.

REAL TENNIS

J D WARD NATIONAL LEAGUE: Hazard Chase Hatfield bt Queen's Club 3-0 (Hatfield names first): P Tabley bt D Johnson, 6-5, 6-4; M Hayward bt A Page, 6-3, 6-2; J Hryalcos bt J Ward, 6-3, 6-0.
CLUB MATCH: Army bt Hardwick 2-1 (Army names first): R Broke and S Bennett lost to R Armstrong and C Briggs, 5-6, 4-5, 4-6; C Wright and R Fellows bt R Calvocoressi and R Parkes, 5-6, 6-1, 6-5; I Park-Weir and P Leverington bt G Timney and Viscount Marchwood, 2-6, 6-3, 6-4.

RUGBY LEAGUE

SLALOM LAGER ALLIANCE: First division: Salford 20, Warrington 38; Hull Kingston Rovers 24, St Helens 8; Oldham 5, Leigh 0; Widnes 41, Leeds 8. Second division: Keighley 20, Huddersfield 12.

FOOTBALL

INTERNATIONAL MATCH: Argentina 3, Brazil 3.
UNDER-19 INTERNATIONAL MATCH: England 1, Mexico 3 (in Trinidad).
EAST GERMAN LEAGUE: Lokomotiv Leipzig 2, Magdeburg 0.

Late results on Wednesday
EUROPEAN CHAMPIONSHIP: Group two: Scotland 1, Bulgaria 1; San Marino 1, Romania 3. Group five: Belgium 1, Wales 1. Group seven: England 1, Republic of Ireland 1.
INTERNATIONAL MATCHES: Czechoslovakia 4, Poland 0; Germany 2, Soviet Union 1; Morocco 0, Greece 0; Spain 2, Hungary 4; Tunisia 0, Turkey 0.
GM VAUXHALL CONFERENCE: Yeovil 1, Telford 2.
VAUXHALL LEAGUE: Premier division: Redbridge Forest 1, Bognor 0.
HFS LOANS LEAGUE: First division: Farsley Celtic 0, Worksop 2. First division cup: Whitley Bay 5, Eastwood 1.
BEAZER HOMES LEAGUE: Premier division: Poole 1, VS Rugby 1. Midland division: Barry 5, Bilston 1. Southern division: Bury 2, Newport, IoW 1.
PONTINS CENTRAL LEAGUE: First division: Blackburn 4, Liverpool 0; Leeds 2, Rotherham 2; Newcastle 1, Leicester 2; Nottingham Forest 2, Derby 1; Wolverhampton 1, Aston Villa 1. Second division: Blackpool 5, Oldham 2; Scunthorpe 4, Notts County 2; West Bromwich 2, Bradford 1; Wigan 0, Bolton 0; York 3, Barnsley 1.
OVENDEN PAPERS COMBINATION: Brighton 1, West Ham 1; Oxford United 2, Chelsea 2; Fulham 0, Tottenham 2; Reading 0, Crystal Palace 2.
BASS NORTH-WEST COUNTIES LEAGUE: First division: Clitheroe 0, Salford City 0; Darwen 0, Colwyn Bay 3.
GREAT MILLS LEAGUE: Premier division: Chard 1, Frome 1; Clevedon 0, Weston-super-Mare 2.
WENDY FAIR CAPITAL LEAGUE: Wokingham Town 0, Leyton Orient 4.
GREENE KING SPARTAN LEAGUE: Premier division: Walton Abbey 0, Barkingside 0.
LOCTITE YOUTH CUP: Semi-finals, first leg: Bromley 2, Carshalton 1; Uxbridge 2, Epsom and Ewell 3.
DUTCH LEAGUE: Maastricht 1, Volendam 1; PSV Eindhoven 2, SC Heerenveen 0.
SWISS LEAGUE: Lausanne 1, Neuchatel Xamax 1; Lugano 1, Lucerne 0; Sion 1, Servette 1; Young Boys 1, Grasshopper 2.
PORTUGUESE CUP: Seventh round: Famalicao 0, FC Porto 1; Tirsense 2, Portimonense 1; Feirense 1, Guimaraes 0; Ovarense 1, Braga Arsenal 1 (aet); Boavista 2, Sporting 0; Benfica 1, Maritimo 0 (played Tuesday).
EUROPEAN YOUTH CHAMPIONSHIP: Northern Ireland 0, Germany 1 (agg: 0-4).
SCHOOLS INTERNATIONAL MATCH: Under-18: England 2, Switzerland 0 (at Chesterfield).

GOLF

TOKYO: Men's tournament: First round (Japan unless stated): 64: T Sugihara. 66: N Serizawa. 68: N Sugai, K Tomori, J Kogi, L Stephen (Aus). 69: T Ozaki, K Murota, P Hoad (GB), M Kimura, M Kuramoto, M Yamagoshi.
BANGKOK: Thailand Open championship: First round (Thailand unless stated): 64: M Aebli (US). 65: B Ruangkit, C Chirpasong. 66: A Maloney (Aus), P Kasowast. 67: Lin Kong Chi (Taiwan), S Meesawat. 68: J-L Lamaro (Can), A Fernido (Phil). 69: Vijay Singh (Fiji), S Ginnson (Sing), D Conser (US), B Mogg (US), N Noppalum, T Viratchan.

RUGBY UNION

DIVISIONAL MATCH: South and South-West B 16, London and South-East B 24.
REPRESENTATIVE MATCHES: Eastern Counties 27, Sussex 3; Rugby and District 17, Coventry and Mid-Warwickshire 9.
CLUB MATCH: Ebbw Vale 27, Rhymney 13.
LEICESTERSHIRE CUP: Final: Loughborough Students 19, Syston 13.
WHITBREAD YORKSHIRE CUP: Second round: Wharfedale 13, Morley 5.

ICE HOCKEY

NATIONAL LEAGUE (NHL): Pittsburgh Penguins 7, Detroit Red Wings 4; New Jersey Devils 4, Hartford Whalers 3 (OT).

MOTOR RALLYING

NAIROBI: Safari Rally: Leading positions (after 26 stages): 1, C Sainz (Sp), Toyota Celica, 17min 8sec penalty; 2, B Waldegaard (Swe), Toyota Celica, 18:08; 3, J Kankunnen (Fin), Lancia Integrale, 24:10; 4, J Recalde (Arg), Lancia Integrale, 24:13; 5, M Ericsson (Swe), Toyota Celica, 29:34; 6, I Duncan (Ken), Subaru Legacy, 41:32; 7, K Shinozuka (Japan), Mitsubishi Galant, 1:22:35; 8, S Blomqvist (Swe), Nissan Sunny, 1:30:24; 9, P Njiru (Ken), Subaru Legacy, 1:32:40; 10, M Kirkland (Ken), Nissan Sunny, 1:37:35.

SNOOKER

PRESTON: Embassy world championship: Third qualifying round (England unless stated): R Edmonds bt J Spencer, 10-4, D Morgan (Wales) bt P Medati, 10-5, M Rowing bt N Terry, 10-8, C Cookson bt M Macleod (Scot), 10-4, B Morgan bt I Brumby, 10-3; N Dyson bt E Sinclair, 10-9; S Duggan bt P Gibson, 10-7; J Ferguson bt T Chappel (Wal), 10-9; N Bond leads B Oliver, 7-2; P Browne (Eire) leads K Owers, 5-4; J Prince (N Ire) leads C Roscoe (Wales), 5-4; K Doherty (Eire) leads R Williams, 6-3; C Edwards leads G Scott, 5-3. Fourth qualifying round: R Marshall leads M Johnston-Allen, 6-3; W King (Aus) leads R Lawler, 5-4; L Dodd level with M Price, 4-4.

TENNIS

SAN ANTONIO, Texas: US women's hardcourt championships: Second round: M Maleeva-Fragniere (Switz) bt I Demongeot (Fr), 6-2, 6-2; L McNeil (US) bt P Fendick (US), 6-4, 6-3; J Halard (Fr) bt A Dechaume (Fr), 6-1, 6-3; E Svigerova (Cz) bt P Shriver (US), 2-6, 7-6, 6-3; S Graf (Ger) bt M Javer (GB), 6-3, 6-1.

SWIMMING

LENINGRAD: World Cup (USSR unless stated): Men: 200m freestyle: U Dassler (Ger), 1min 49.03sec. 50m backstroke: M Tewksbury (Can), 25.71. 100m butterfly: M Herrmann (Ger), 54.51. 100m breaststroke: A Matveyev, 1:01.30. 100m medley: J Hladky (Ger), 56.35. 50m freestyle: V Predkin, 22.79. 200m backstroke: V Selkov, 1:58.37. 100m freestyle: A Popov, 49.96: 400m freestyle: U Dassler (Ger), 3:49.86; 50m breaststroke: D Volkov, 27.38; 200m breaststroke: A Korneyev, 2:12.54; 100m backstroke: M Tewksbury (Can), 54.39; 50m butterfly: K Petrov, 24.82; 200m butterfly: D Pankratov, 1:58.33; 200m individual medley: J Hladky (Ger), 2:00.81. Women: 400m freestyle: N Trefilova, 4:14.74. 50m breaststroke: P Hartung (Ger), 31.58. 50m backstroke: S Page (GB), 29.86. 100m backstroke: Page, 1:02.78. 200m butterfly: Y Talakyova, 2:15.11. 200m medley: D Shmeleva, 2:16.18. 100m freestyle: S Osigus, 55.94. 200m breaststroke: Y Rudkovskaya, 2:28.57. 50m butterfly: Te Hong (China), 27.47. 50m freestyle: S Osygus (Ger), 26.03; 200m freestyle: Osygus (Ger), 1min 59.57sec; 100m breaststroke: Y Rudkovskaya, 1:08.62; 50m backstroke: S Page (GB), 29.88sec; 200m backstroke: 1, N Krupskaya, 2:13.59; 3, Page, 2:16.50; 100m butterfly: Hong Te (China), 1:00.22.

Smith signs on

The recently formed rugby league club, Scarborough Pirates, have signed the former Great Britain and Featherstone Rovers second-row forward, Peter Smith. He has been appointed captain.

TED BATH

A man on the river's edge: Evans, the umpire for the Boat Race tomorrow, at Putney yesterday

Evans goes against tradition

By MIKE ROSEWELL
ROWING CORRESPONDENT

MARK Evans, the umpire for the Boat Race on Saturday (1.20), assumed centre stage at Putney yesterday, when he took the Oxford and Cambridge crews afloat for practice starts, and broke with 136 years of tradition.

He announced that the start command would be "Attention — set — go", rather than "Are you ready? Go". The former command is used by qualified umpires in British rowing, but the Boat Race, like Henley, had remained aloof from the recent change.

Mark Lees, the Cambridge chief coach, whose crew, like Oxford, has been practising the old system, was not happy. Steve Royle, of Oxford, was more philosophical: "If the umpire is decisive, I don't care what he says."

Boat Race umpires have to be old blues and need not be licensed, although in recent years they generally have been. Oxford, as 1990 winners, submitted three nominations to Cambridge, none of whom was qualified. Evans, a Canadian Olympic gold medal winner, who won with Oxford in 1983 and 1984, was the one selected.

Evans dismissed his lack of umpiring qualification: "I am not aware of any qualifications for a two-boat head race other than experience of the race itself." As for his new starting command, Evans considered that it was "fairer and lowers the possibility of a false start".

There were no false starts among those conducted by Evans with the two crews yesterday, Oxford going off at a marginally higher rate than Cambridge, although speed comparisons were academic in very different tide conditions. The decisiveness of the start command from Evans was somewhat muted and a qualified domestic umpire would have been censured for the continued exhibition of the red flag after the "go", a signal to stop rowing in normal circumstances.

Evans will be confronted tomorrow by Neil Chugani, of Oxford, and Andrew Bracey, of Cambridge, the coxswains who were involved in the reserve boat disqualification in 1990 and who have not produced in training great understanding of the tidal flows of the Boat Race course. The 1990 incident does not worry the umpire. "The weight of precedent will weigh heavily on the coxswains without me raising it," he said.

The dress-rehearsal trip of the umpire and the two coxswains over the course did not materialise yesterday. Oxford arrived late for their stake-boat practice and, by the time Evans had finished with them, the tide had turned. The waiting Cambridge coach and coxswain were not amused.

Jim Cobb, a respected elder of the Putney boatmen, considered Oxford's lack of punctuality showed "gross bad manners". Whether the rehearsal can be held today depends upon time and tide, which, as another boatman commented, "wait for no man" and that presumably includes Oxford.

OXFORD: R W Martin (Durham Johnston Comprehensive and University), bow; J G Michels (St John's, La Salle University and University); P A J Bridge (Eton and Oriel); H P M Hume (St Albans, Washington DC, Yale and Pembroke); *C A Maclennan (Camp Hill, Birmingham, Keble and Green); *M Pinsent (Eton and St Catherine's); *R C Young (Bedford, Downing, Cambridge, and St John's); R J Obholzer (Hampton and St Catherine's), stroke; N Chugani (Hampton and St Catherine's), cox.
CAMBRIDGE: R A B Smith (Shrewsbury and Trinity Hall), bow; *R J Staite (Prince Henry's and St Catherine's); M C J Justice (Westminster, Atlanta, Boston University and Sidney Sussex); *G R Pooley (Berkhamsted, Imperial College and St John's); K St C Allen (King's, Canterbury and Magdalene); D R Gillard (Bedford Modern and St Catharine's); N J Clarry (John Hampden GS and Jesus); *A J Wright (Norwich and Corpus Christi), stroke; *A J L Bracey (Winchester, University of East Anglia and Magdalene), cox.
TODAY'S OUTINGS: Oxford 8.00am and noon. Cambridge: 8.00am and 11.30am.
TIME OF BOAT RACE ON SATURDAY: 1.20pm.

Games applicant

Malaysia will lobby for the 1998 Commonwealth Games at the general assembly of the Commonwealth Games Federation in Malta in April.

EQUESTRIANISM

MacDonald-Hall makes solid case

By JENNY MACARTHUR

ANNI MacDonald-Hall, who made her debut in the British dressage team in 1989, yesterday made a convincing claim for retaining that place in the team for this year's European championships when she finished first on Floriano and fourth on Optimist in the dressage selection trials at Stoneleigh in Warwickshire.

The trials, which for the first time included a foreign judge, Mariette Wittages, of Belgium, were the most competitive of recent years with a record 28 riders contesting the grand prix.

Jennie Loriston-Clarke, the doyenne of British dressage and almost certain to be in the team this year, took second place on Dutch Gold.

Carl Hester, who made his team debut in the world championships in Stockholm last year, confirmed his status in *the high echelons of the sport* with a superb performance on Rubelit von Unkenruf. Madame Wittages awarded him the highest marks in the class but lower scores from the two British judges kept him third.

Hester's contemporary, Laura Fry and Quarryman II, who won the pre-selection trials earlier in the month, must also be a contender for the European championship team after another competent performance, which put her into fifth place.

MacDonald-Hall, aged 39, who started riding only five years ago after her husband, Casper, won a horse in a game of backgammon, was pleasantly surprised by the fluent, responsive performance of Floriano, a former German team horse. She *returned from a skiing holiday* four days ago and was concerned that she had not given the 15-year-old gelding sufficient preparation.

Alan Doxey completed one of his most successful weeks when he won the Intermediaire II class on Waldan having earlier *won the Intermediaire I and* Prix St Georges on his outstanding young horse, Royal Star.

RESULTS: Grand Prix: 1, Floriano (A MacDonald-Hall) 798pts; 2, Dutch Gold (J Loriston-Clarke) 793; 3, Rubelit von Unkenruf (C Hester) 782; 4, Optimist (A MacDonald-Hall) 779; 5, Quarryman II (L Fry) 767; 6, Wily Imp (T Gardiner) 748.

NON-LEAGUE FOOTBALL

Guiseley's aim is to go one better

By WALTER GAMMIE

GUISELEY have home advantage in the FA Vase for the first time this season in tomorrow's semi-final second leg match against Trowbridge Town. Any superstitious anxiety about breaking a winning sequence must be offset by the comforting knowledge that Saturday's 2-1 win at *Trowbridge* was *the* club's eighteenth in succession.

Top of the Weekly Wynner League, in the league cup quarter-finals and the President's Cup final, Guiseley's season has provided a sensational start in senior management for Gordon Rayner, aged 35, a Bradford *motor mechanic*. Rayner was promoted after being persuaded to resume the reserve team manager's job he had held before going to manage Eccleshill United's reserve side.

"I've signed three players and changed one or two positions," Rayner said. He is attempting to improve on last season when Guiseley went out in the semi-finals to Bridlington Town. He has also backed his judgment in retaining Billy Roberts, who occupies a free role behind the front two in attack.

"Billy hadn't been playing particularly well but I know that in the big games, he can keep a cool head in front of goal when there are a lot of nerves about." Roberts duly supplied the two second-half goals that put Guiseley in the driving seat after David Mitchell had given Trowbridge a first-half lead.

A late goal by John Bailey gave Littlehampton Town, of the Sussex County League, hope of retrieving a 3-1 deficit from the first leg of the other semi-final at Gresley Rovers, the Banks Brewery League side. Altrincham, who equalled Scarborough's GM Vauxhall Conference 22-match record for a run without defeat when they won 3-1 away at Runcorn on Tuesday, are at home to Barnet tomorrow. The match kicks off at 1pm because it will be the first shown on the Sportscast television service to pubs and clubs; on Monday, they travel to Kettering.

Barnet head the Conference table but were unconvincing in their 1-0 win over Sutton United on Tuesday, achieved thanks to a first-half goal by Paul Culpin, a new signing from Peterborough.

GOLF

Unknown Bossert makes the running

ANDREW Bossert, a Swiss golfer born in South Africa who is virtually unknown on the European Tour, came out of the pack to snatch a one-stroke lead after the first round of the Volvo Florence Open at Ugolino yesterday.

Bossert, aged 27, who was a long way from getting his playing card at the qualifying school last December, shot a seven-under-par 65 to lead by one stroke from David Gilford, the former English amateur champion and Walker Cup player.

Russell Claydon, the 1990 Rookie of the Year and joint runner-up in this event a year ago, *again showed his liking for* the course as he joined Glyn Krause, Paul Curry and Vilhelm Forsbrand, of Sweden, in joint third place on 67.

Bossert's parents moved from Switzerland to South Africa before he was born, but he has always opted to take Swiss nationality, playing for them as an amateur *international. He* spent more than four years in the United States, at Oklahoma University, and turned professional only 18 months ago. "I just hope I can keep it going," he said. "I'd love to get my card to play on the Tour regularly."

He kept the ball in play off the tee, missed only the first green and kept his card clear of bogeys. He also sprinkled it with seven birdies and nearly won a Volvo car on offer for a hole-in-one at the 142-yard 17th, his six-iron tee-shot finishing only two inches from the cup.

Gilford, the quiet 25-year-old from the Midlands, is another with a liking for the Ugolino course, having won the Florence Open satellite event on it four years ago.

Gilford compiled his score in spite of taking seven, two over par, at the 8th, where he drove out of bounds. But he shot no fewer than eight birdies, five of them during a spectacular inward *half of 31*.

Claydon, the giant from Cambridgeshire, also likes Ugolino, where he holds the course record of 63, was joint runner-up last year and tied for first place in a pro-am tournament on Wednesday, also with a 67.

He made a bad start, with his only bogey, but had four birdies and an eagle-three at the 521-yard 8th, where he easily reached the green in two and then rolled home a 20-foot putt.

Steven Richardson, who scored his second victory of the season in Portugal last Sunday and has recorded more birdies than anyone else on the Tour, struggled all the way, striking the ball poorly and managing only two birdies in a one over-par-73.

FIRST ROUND (GB and Ireland unless stated): 65: A Bossert (Switz). 66: D Gilford. 67: G Krause, P Curry, V Forsbrand (Swe), R Claydon. 68: B Lane, P Lonard (Aus), J Rutledge (Can), P Broadhurst.
69: P O'Malley (Aus), A Hunter, C Platts, J McHenry, P Smith, M A Martin, S Torrance, G Brand Jr, J Bennett. 70: J Hobday, A Sherborne, A Rogato (It), P Carman, K Brown, N Job, A Canessa (It), S McAllister, S Bottomley, M Lanner (Swe), M Roe, P Mitchell, M Durante (It), J van de Velde (Fr).
71: S Bennett, M Fernandez (Arg), J Tumba (Swe), E Bolognesi (It), D Llewellyn, D Silva (Por), P Golding, A Forsbrand (Swe), A Saavedra (Arg), G Day (US). 72: G Ryall, R Hartmann (US), M Mouland, S Locatelli (It), A Oldcorn, D Prosser, J Rystrom (Swe), H P Thuel (Ger), B Dessu (It), J Pinsent, D Stirling, J Sewell, S Luna (Sp), B Nelson (US), R Winchester, E Dussart (Fr), C Cookson (US), M Gates, W Grant, D Durnian.
73: J Spence, C Post (Den), P Haugsrud (Nor), N Briggs, E O'Connell, G Call (It), P McWhinney (Aus), J Heggarty, J Cheetham, S Bowman (US), P Price, C Rocca (It), S Richardson, J Townsend (US), *M Luzzi (It), R Gragan, C Hardin* (Swe). 74: D Whelan, P Carrigill, P Harrison, K Jones, R Lee, K Waters, B Marchbank, B Barnes, D Feherty, F George, T Level (Fr), D R Jones, R Campagnoli (It), M Pendaries (Fr), R Karlsson (Swe), R Drummond, T Charnley, J Hawksworth, D Clarke.

Alcott's plan to hold on

From PATRICIA DAVIES
IN RANCHO MIRAGE

TWO feet of snow fell on San Jacinto mountain, which looms overs the Mission Hill Country Club here in california, on Wednesday and rain reduced the Nabisco Dinah Shore pro-am to nine holes but the desert weather was more temperate for the start of the first round yesterday.

The surrounding mountains with their topping of snow looked suitably dramatic against the sort of blue sky traditionally associated with Palm Springs, but not much in evidence earlier in the week. In the 20 years of the event, the pro-am truncation was the first time play had been affected by the weather. In true Hollywood tradition the show had always gone on.

Amy Alcott, who likes to say she revels in adversity, showed that benign conditions were also her bag, going out in 34 to be two under par after nine. Having won the Dinah event twice, she is the sort of early leader who might just stay around until Sunday.

Laura Davies, one of the late starters yesterday, described Lawrence Taylor, one of her pro-am partners, as "very quiet", an interesting assessment of one of the most murderous linebackers in American football. On the golf course, *he* concentrates on inflicting pain only on the ball, hitting it so far even Davies could not compete. She should be fulfilling the Taylor role for JoAnne Carner and Sandra Palmer, her first round partners, who are now in the legendary veterans category.

Apart from the weather, the talk of the town has been the $5,000 (£2,850) reward the Sinatras had posted for information leading to the arrest of the hit-and-run driver who knocked down and killed one of the couple's Cavalier King Charles spaniels last Monday.

IN BRIEF

Opponent for Barrett

PAT Barrett, of Manchester, named yesterday as Britain's best young boxer of the year, will defend his European light-welterweight title against Tusikoleta Nkalankete, of France, in London on April 17.

MOTOR RALLYING: Carlos Sainz, the world champion, had a one-minute lead on his Toyota colleague, Bjorn Waldegaard, after the second day of the Safari Rally in Kenya. Miki Biasion, former world champion, retired after a collision.

GOLF: Two new championship courses on the Brocket Hall estate at Welwyn, Hertfordshire, will be exclusive to companies paying £10,000 a year plus £2,500 a player.

☐ Ernest Jones, of Royal County Down, is the new captain of the Professional Golfers' Association.

● RUGBY UNION 29
● CRICKET 30
● FOOTBALL 31

SPORT

Olympic fantasies grip South Africans

Craven: rebel tours advocate

From GAVIN BELL IN JOHANNESBURG

IT IS perhaps fanciful to imagine black South African runners dominating the marathon at the Olympic Games in Barcelona next year, but such are the hopes raised by the International Olympic Committee's acknowledgement of the gradual abolition of apartheid.

The prospect of returning to international competition evokes the kind of enthusiasm in sports-mad South Africa one might expect from Merseysiders to the news that Liverpool were to play in Europe again.

"All very exciting, wonderful news," was how Danie Malan, chairman of the South African Track and Field Association, reacted to the IOC delegation's approval of a multi-racial South African Olympic Committee. Malan said a mission from the International Amateur Athletics Federation was due to arrive in Johannesburg next month, and he had high hopes of South Africa competing in the world athletics championships in Tokyo in August.

Johan du Plessis, general secretary of the interim Olympic committee, said: "It's tremendous. We have come a long way in a short space of time, considering we were formed less than three weeks ago. Now we have been recognised by the IOC, and I believe it will not take us long to meet their conditions." A paradox of the demise of apartheid is that many of its most vociferous supporters are also rabid rugby fans excited at the prospect of their beloved Springboks taking on the New Zealand All Blacks.

For white South Africans, sport is an almost mystical experience, Kader Asmal, an official of the African National Congress, says. "Taking part in a cricket Test or an international rugby match is much more important to them than, say, the restoration of diplomatic relations with other countries." If South Africans are allowed to compete in Barcelona, their coaches expect them to perform well in long-distance running, which is dominated here by black athletes, boxing and equestrian events.

A nagging concern is that impatient rugby and cricket admistrators may be tempted to infringe the moratorium on international sporting contacts, which remains in place for the time being. Danie Craven, the pugnacious rugby chief, has said repeatedly he would be bound only by the International Rugby Board, and would go ahead with "rebel" tours if it approved.

As the most popular team sport among blacks, football could be the first to return to the international arena, perhaps in time for the 1994 World Cup in the United States. Zane Moosa, a midfield star with the Mamelodi Sundowns club, is cautiously optimistic.

"We don't talk about it much, but it would be an honour for us, and it would be great for our fans to see us play internationally. It's better to wait and not expect anything, but obviously we all want to play at the highest level," sentiments which one assumes Nelson Mandela, once an accomplished boxer, would readily understand.

George's achievement, page 30

Taylor indicates that old guard will be replaced

By STUART JONES, FOOTBALL CORRESPONDENT

GRAHAM Taylor indicated yesterday that he is to accelerate the process of evolution in the England side. The first casualty could be the 34-year-old captain, Bryan Robson, whose international career may have reached a natural conclusion at Wembley on Wednesday night.

The 1-1 draw against the Republic of Ireland has persuaded Taylor to discard his reluctance to tamper with a formula which had reached the semi-finals of the World Cup. Apart from Butcher and Shilton, who retired voluntarily, the rest of the squad he inherited from Bobby Robson last summer has since been retained.

The party he will take to Izmir for the next European Championship qualifying tie against Turkey on May 1 is unlikely to include all the old guard. After five games in charge, he has seen enough to convince him that changes should now be made.

"I had suspicions that something had to happen," he said euphemistically, "But I had to have the evidence of my own eyes. Yesterday confirmed those suspicions but you've got to decide when is the right time to introduce new players. You don't know for sure until you've seen them in action."

Seaman served as an example. Assured and convincing throughout the season at Arsenal, he was preferred to Woods because "he is a first-class goalkeeper playing out of his skin". Yet, in his first appearance in a genuinely competitive international, he was nervous and hesitant.

Sharpe, the 19-year-old introduced as a substitute for the second half, was not and he is sure to be one of the prime candidates considered for promotion against the Turks. The future of his captain at Manchester United, though, seems to be even more limited than when Taylor took over.

The new England manager then stated that he could not foresee Robson again filling a midfield role for his country. He could not have predicted that the likes of Gascoigne, Platt, McMahon, Webb, Steven and Hodge would all be unavailable for one or both of the internationals against Cameroon and the Irish.

Taylor said: "I wouldn't like to give the impression that it is a team of has-beens. It was a team which didn't perform." He likened England to the boxer who juts out his chin and invites the opponent to throw punches in the arrogant belief that the blows cannot be potent enough to floor him. "We were nearly knocked out and thankful that we weren't," he said.

The defence, persistently retreating too far towards its own goal, was "asking for trouble". The Irish were also able to sustain their assaults, especially before the interval, because they seized on almost all of the clearances which were inevitably hurried and misdirected. Midfield was their domain.

"Townsend and McGrath won the battle there against Robson and Platt," Taylor said. "I thought McGrath was magnificent. It would have needed a special player to stay with him." The comment was particularly significant and a sad condemnation of the diminishing powers of the England captain.

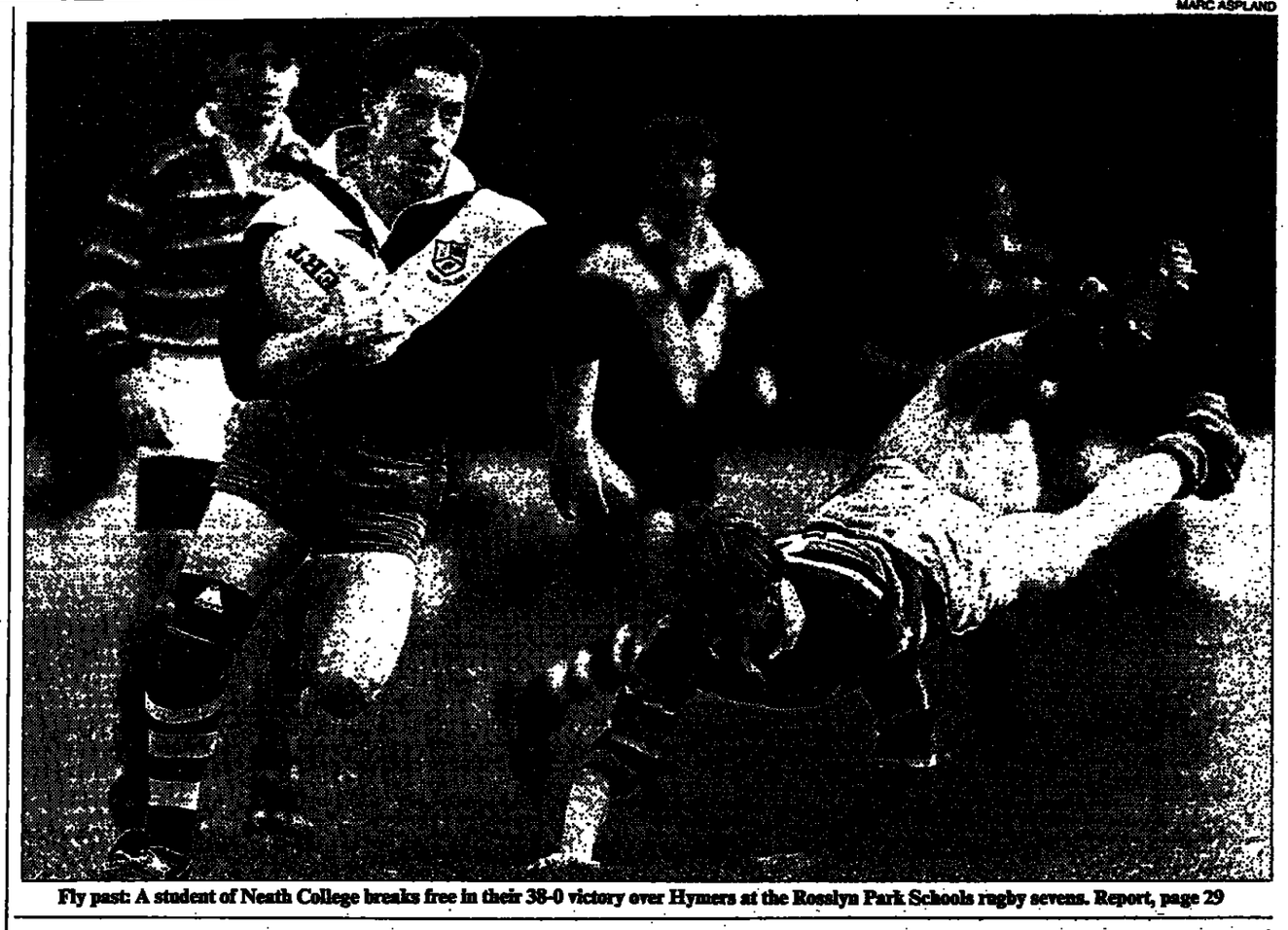
His right to be considered "special" was once beyond dispute. On Wednesday, he was overshadowed by a former colleague at Manchester United who, at the age of 31, can scarcely train between matches because of his damaged knees. Regrettably, it seems likely that Robson will not achieve his cherished ambition of collecting 100 caps.

If it was his swansong, his international career will have completed a neat circle. Robson made the first of his 89 appearances 11 years ago in a European Championship qualifying tie against the Republic of Ireland at Wembley.

☐ There were 68 arrests in and around Wembley on Wednesday, all for public order offences. The worst incident occurred at Kilburn, north-west London, several hours before kick-off, when about 200 youths launched an organised attack on a public house where Irish supporters were drinking. A spokesman for Scotland Yard said that the majority of the 78,000-strong crowd was well behaved.

☐ England's B squad will meet Iceland's full international side at Watford on April 27 and play Switzerland B at a home venue on May 20.

MARC ASPLAND


Fly past: A student of Neath College breaks free in their 38-0 victory over Hymers at the Rosslyn Park Schools rugby sevens. Report, page 29

Vanquished Australia can learn from victors

From JOHN WOODCOCK IN GEORGETOWN, GUYANA

HARD as their tailenders fought there was no escape for Australia in the second Test match here yesterday. They lost it in mid-afternoon by ten wickets, only their second defeat in 22 Tests, the other having been against New Zealand in Wellington a year ago.

Although Healy batted all through the morning and Hughes stayed with him for 100 minutes, thus saving an innings defeat, Australia's hopes were finally dashed when, of all things, Healy allowed himself to be thrown out, going for a second run to Haynes at deep square leg.

The extent of the West Indian victory and the conviction with which, eventually, they played must have come as a nasty shock to the Australians. Having successfully contained West Indies in the one-day internationals, Australia were lost when it came now to bowling them out.

There were times when West Indies looked scarcely less formidable than in the early and middle Eighties, and when one began to wonder how Australia are ever going to get back into the series. During their three Test matches in Pakistan towards the end of last year the West Indians learned how best to use their almost exclusively fast attack on pitches with very little bounce in them. It is by the simple discipline of bowling straight and pitching the ball up, but not too far up.

Anyone coming into the Bourda ground on Wednesday afternoon, and seeing that Australia were 50 for 2, would have been amazed to find Marshall bowling without a slip or a gully. He had only three men behind the wicket — two of them at third man, one square and one fine, and the other at long leg. His only close fielders were a forward short leg and a silly mid-off, there to pick up anything the batsmen might offer as they pushed defensively forward. In Barbados in three weeks time, on a more resillient pitch, he will be just as likely to have four slips and two gullies.

Australia, for their part, must try, as Allan Border says, to learn from the way West Indies bowl. They have played no better here than England did in Australia recently. Although West Indies went on to the defensive as soon as they had lost the toss last Friday morning, Australia made little effort to take the initiative themselves. And when at the start of West Indies' innings Richardson launched his blistering and brilliant attack, accompanied by Haynes, Australia were caught quite unawares.

AUSTRALIA: First innings 348 (G R Marsh 94, M E Waugh 71, I A Healy 53; B P Patterson 4 for 80).

Second Innings

G R Marsh b Walsh	22
M A Taylor lbw b Ambrose	15
D C Boon c Dujon b Marshall	2
*A R Border c Dujon b Marshall	34
D M Jones run out	3
M E Waugh c Richards b Ambrose	31
G R J Matthews c Dujon b Marshall	16
†I A Healy run out	47
C J McDermott c Dujon b Patterson	4
M G Hughes c Patterson b Walsh	21
M R Whitney not out	0
Extras (b 17, lb 6, w 2, nb 28)	53
Total	248

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-32, 2-43, 3-57, 4-73, 5-130, 6-161, 7-172, 8-187, 9-241.

BOWLING: Ambrose 24-5-45-2 (1w, 3nb); Patterson 14-5-48-1 (7nb); Walsh 23-4-55-2 (9nb); Marshall 15-2-31-3 (1w 9nb); Hooper 18-6-35-0; Richards 4-2-13-0.

WEST INDIES: First innings 569 (R B Richardson 182, D L Haynes 111, C L Hooper 62, A L Logie 54, I V A Richards 50; A R Border 5 for 68).

Second Innings

C G Greenidge not out	5
D L Haynes not out	23
Extras (lb 2, nb 1)	3
Total (no wkt)	31

BOWLING: McDermott 4-1-10-0; Hughes 3.5-0-19-0.

Umpires: C Cumberbatch and C Duncan.

Match-making

Brisbane (AP) — Mike Hunter, of the United States, will meet Carlos de Leon, of Puerto Rico, in a World Boxing Council cruiserweight elimination contest on Australia's Gold Coast on April 14. The winner is scheduled to face Massimillano Duran, of Italy, who must defend his WBC cruiserweight title before June.

Hick joining the England queue

By ALAN LEE, CRICKET CORRESPONDENT

GRAEME Hick's apparently inevitable elevation to the England team will move a significant step nearer next month when he plays in the traditional overture to the new season at Lord's, for MCC against the champion county, Middlesex, in the four-day game beginning on April 16.

The team is ostensibly chosen by the chairman of MCC's cricket committee, who ironically is Peter May, formerly chairman of England's selectors. In reality, however, it is put together in consultation with the England team manager, Micky Stewart, and it was at his request that no members of the winter tour party to Australia have been included.

Nine of the MCC team started the tour of Sri Lanka with England A earlier this year and another member of that side, Mark Ramprakash, will be playing for Middlesex.

Ramprakash made a big impression in Sri Lanka and, at 21, may be Hick's closest rival for a place in the England middle-order this summer.

The MCC XI is completed by Mark Ilott, aged 20, rapid promotion for someone who has played only 16 first-class games for Essex but an indication both of Ilott's potential and the crying need for a left-arm fast bowler in the England set-up.

Most interest, however, is sure to focus on Hick who, despite renewed attempts to question his eligibility, qualifies on Monday.

TEAM: H Morris (Glamorgan, captain), D J Bicknell (Surrey), G A Hick (Worcestershire), N H Fairbrother (Lancashire), N Hussain (Essex), G P Thorpe (Surrey), S J Rhodes (Worcestershire), R K Illingworth (Worcestershire), P J Newport (Worcestershire), R A Pick (Nottinghamshire), M C Ilott (Essex).

Chip off the old block

LIAM Botham, the strapping son of Ian, has won his first England honours at the age of 14 (Alan Lee writes). Botham has been included in a selection of the country's top under-14s attending a coaching session at Lilleshall this weekend.

Botham junior, an all-rounder in the mould of his father, has already represented Yorkshire schools and was recommended for the national side by John Abrahams, northern coach of the National Cricket Association. This coaching weekend is one under the Bull development of excellence scheme run by the Test and County Cricket Board.

SAFETY ANNOUNCEMENT
SUGAR PUFFS – STICKY FLICKERS
(Promotional Toy)

The makers of Sugar Puffs, Quaker Oats Limited, wish to advise parents who have purchased a packet of Sugar Puffs containing a separate promotional toy, STICKY FLICKERS, that the toy could be mistaken for a particular type of child's sweet.

There is a possibility that this toy, which is non-toxic, could if broken into smaller pieces, be swallowed by mistake.

Therefore, as a precaution, we strongly urge all purchasers to remove the toy and dispose of it. The Sugar Puffs product itself is unaffected and is to our usual high standard.

The promotional package concerned advertises Sticky Flickers, "A stretchy toy that sticks with a flick" on both the front and back of the packets. The toy will be found between the inner bag and the outer carton of the packet.

We are also contacting trade outlets to arrange the removal of promotional offer packets from shelves. Trade outlets should remove such packets and await further instructions. Independent retailers will be contacted in the next few days.

We apologise to customers for any inconvenience caused. The toy has been awarded both British and European Toy Safety Certification. However, where the safety of children is concerned, obviously we feel we must act on the side of caution at all times.

Watson is back in the groove at last

From MITCHELL PLATTS GOLF CORRESPONDENT PONTE VEDRA, FLORIDA

TOM Watson, who has not won in the United States since 1987, he moved into contention for The Players' Championship with a first round of 68 on the Tournament Players' course here yesterday.

Watson, five times Open champion, has not ruled out the possibility of winning another major championship and the Masters is very much on his mind. Even so, he knows that for the moment it is imperative that he continues the steady progress which began with a swing change in Hawaii two months ago.

"I've gone back to doing something that basically I had worked away from," he said. "In short, I'm opening the gate again when I take the club back, fanning the blade, and closing it as I take it through. I remember in 1976 I made a swing change which turned on the light as far as my ability to hit the ball was concerned. I think I may have turned the light on again."

Watson, too, has turned to Dave Musgrove as caddie. Musgrove has won three major championships. He was with Severiano Ballesteros at the 1979 Open and with Sandy Lyle for his Open win in 1985 and his Masters triumph in 1988. "I like David and he will be with me at the Masters," Watson said. 'He does his job well and he has a good sense of humour."

Watson's own sense of humour has been severely examined in recent years. His commitment to the game was questioned and his silky putting touch deserted him. It was the putter which caused him most concern.

He refused, however, to use the long-handled putter as a crutch. "I personally think it is not a stroke of golf and that it should be banned," Watson said. "It's not a stroke of golf because you can let it swing by its own momentum through the impact area. I don't think that's fair. I don't think it's right. But I don't think we're going to do a thing about it."

Watson, however, has changed his putting method. "I felt very comfortable on the greens today and that's the first time I have been able to say that since I don't know when," he said. He felt all the more comfortable when he holed from 25 feet at his last hole for the fifth birdie of a round in which he missed only two greens.

Ballesteros, who has been working with Phil Ritson, the South African teacher, is, like Watson, seeking to resurrect his game. He finished with a 72, which was about the best that he could hope for since he is lacking in confidence on the tee. The problem for the Spaniard is that he has no idea which way the ball is going. That was patently clear at the 14th when he drove left into the water. He even had trouble deciding where the ball had crossed the hazard.

The Spaniard single-putted six of his first nine holes, but failed to take advantage of a glorious morning when Bob Tway, the former US PGA Champion, set the target with a 65 before Nick Faldo, Ian Woosnam and Sandy Lyle stepped on the course. Bernhard Langer had a 70, as did Mark McNulty, and Woosnam, despite taking five at the 1st, was quickly on the move with an eagle at the second.

EARLY LEADING FIRST ROUND SCORES (US unless stated): 65: B Tway. 66: R Eastwood. 67: M Smith, D A Weibring, B McCallister. 68: C Perry, W Andrade, T Watson. 69: D Barr (Can), J Adams, R Gilder, L Roberts, K Green, J Sluman, C Pavin, D Frost (SA), J Haas. 70: R Fehr, H Green, D Pohl, B Langer (Ger), M Brooks, C Beck.
71: D Tewell, B Faxon, J Cook, B Lietzke, N Lancaster, M Calcavecchia, T Purtzer, W Grady (Aus), C Strange, S Hoch, D Love, M Donald. 72: B Estes, R Mathie, D Halldorson, M McNulty (Zim), M Lye, B Bryant, B Brown, J Mahaffey, T Schultz, S Ballesteros (Sp), J Gallagher, B Hulbert, L Nelson, G Morgan. Others: 74: J Olazábal (Sp).